

## Afro-Arab panel revives cooperation

DAMASCUS (R) — An Afro-Arab sub-committee ended talks Wednesday with an agreement to revive cooperation between the two blocs after a two-year lapse, officials said. They said the sub-committee, headed by Syrian Foreign Minister Farouq Al Sharran, decided to go ahead with a planned meeting of the full 24-member joint cooperation committee. Representatives from Syria, Sudan, the Congo and Zambia, and the general secretaries of the Organisation of African Unity (OAU) and the Arab League took part in the two-day meeting. The full committee, grouping 12 ministers from each side, held its eighth meeting in Damascus in 1986. But a dispute on the status of the Western Sahara blocked its ninth meeting scheduled for Burkina Faso in 1987. The sub-committee was formed to find a compromise to let the organisation continue its work. "The main objective is to revive joint cooperation. The Sahara issue did not have anything to do with Arab-African ties so it should not affect the process of cooperation," an Arab diplomat told Reuters.

# Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published by the Jordan Press Foundation  
جوردان تايمز يومية سياسية تصدر بالانجليزية عن المؤسسة الصحفية الاردنية، الراي.

## Saudi locust problem under control

RIYADH (R) — Swarms of desert locusts large enough to block out the sun have invaded northern Saudi Arabia. Officials from the locust research centre said Wednesday the infestation was under control but more of the pests were expected. "Two swarms in Tabuk have been completely controlled," one official said. "There are five swarms in the Al Jouf area but they are under control as well. Some of the swarms are more than two kilometres long. They look like giant clouds as they block out the sun." Two days ago Saudi authorities tackled a swarm stretching over nine square kilometres in the Al Jouf region. Jordan sent two insecticide-spraying vehicles towards the Saudi border as a precaution Wednesday, Agriculture Minister Marwan Al Hmoud said. No locusts had so far penetrated Jordan, partly because prevailing winds had kept them away. The voracious insects are entering Saudi Arabia from Africa because of prevailing westerly winds, the locust research centre official said. Huge concentrations have also been sighted this year in Algeria, Morocco and Tunisia. The Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) has reported extensive damage across North Africa from what it says is the worst locust plague in 30 years.

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Price: Jordan 100 fils; Syria 1 pound; Lebanon 1 pound; Saudi Arabia 1.50 riyals; UAE 1.50 dirhams; Great Britain 25 pence

## Royal advisor named

AMMAN (Petra) — A Royal Decree was issued Wednesday appointing Badia Forces and Border Guards Commander Colonel Sharif Fawwaz Zaben Abdullah as an advisor on tribal affairs to His Majesty King Hussein.

## Crown Prince attends army unit iftar

AMMAN (Petra) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan Wednesday attended an iftar banquet hosted by a unit of the Jordanian Armed Forces in his honour. The banquet was attended by senior army officers who performed prayers together with the Prince.

## Islamic banks plan \$300m fund

ABU DHABI (R) — Islamic banks in the Gulf are planning a \$300 million fund for investment in Islamic states, a senior banking official said. A committee has been studying steps to set up the fund, proposed by Dubai Islamic Bank, the bank's chairman, Saeed Ahmad Lootah told Reuters. "We have finalised a study that is only awaiting approval by the Gulf branch of the International Islamic Banks Union," he said. Lootah heads the Gulf section of the union, which groups more than 50 banks in Islamic states. He said the fund's capital had been initially set at \$300 million but could be raised depending on subscriptions. There would be 1,000 shares worth \$300,000 and subscription would be limited to Islamic banks and monetary institutions in Islamic countries. "Banks expect the fund to be based in Kuwait or the United Arab Emirates, although no final decision has been taken."

## Yemens start steps towards unity

ADEN (R) — A South Yemeni leader returned home Wednesday after signing agreements in North Yemen aimed at uniting the two states. Ali Salem Al Baihdi, secretary-general of the ruling Socialist Party, told reporters both sides agreed to present a proposed unity constitution to their respective parliaments for study. He said the accords, which included agreement to cooperate in the oil industry, were "a great achievement which silenced warmongers and evil forces." Baihdi said steps would be taken to lift travel restrictions.

## Iran says 200 Marxists arrested

NICOSIA (R) — Iranian security forces arrested 200 members of the outlawed Marxist Fodayeen-e-Khalq group in the northeastern province of Khorasan, the Iranian news agency IRNA said Wednesday. The agency quoted a security official in the province bordering Afghanistan and the Soviet Union as saying, documents and printing machines had been seized from the group, some of whose leaders had been trained in a foreign country. The official said two bombs intended to explode in busy city areas were seized from "counter-revolutionaries" in the sweep. He said several foreign spies had also been captured, but did not disclose their nationalities. IRNA said. The official said agents had arrested Khaled Ahmadi, a member of the pro-Soviet Tudeh (Communist) Party, when he was crossing into Iran from Afghanistan.

## Pakistani minister to visit Moscow

ISLAMABAD (AP) — Pakistan's acting foreign minister will travel to Moscow Monday for the first high-level meeting with Soviet officials since the Geneva accord on Afghanistan was signed, officials said Wednesday. A Foreign Office spokesman said Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Zain Noorani would meet with Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze in commemoration of the 40th anniversary of Soviet-Pakistan relations. However, their talks are expected to centre on how to implement the agreement signed April 14 that provides for a Soviet troop withdrawal from Afghanistan beginning in mid-May.

# Strike paralyses occupied lands

**OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (Agencies) —** The Israeli-occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip were totally paralysed Wednesday as Palestinians observed a massive general strike as part of the 21-week-old Palestinian uprising in the occupied territories.

The strike, the latest of dozens of such protests in the five months of Palestinian uprising, virtually shut down the occupied territories and occupied Jerusalem. It came a day after Israeli soldiers killed three Palestinian protesters. Palestinians shuttered their stores and paralysed public transportation in the occupied territories in response to a fiercer distributed last week by the underground leadership of the uprising. The pamphlet called for Wednesday to be a "complete strike" and a "day of national construction."

## 2 Palestinians shot dead

**OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (AP) —** Israeli troops shot and killed two Palestinians and wounded 13 Wednesday as a general strike virtually paralysed the occupied territories. The worst clash was reported in the Gaza Strip's Jabalya refugee camp where Israeli soldiers opened fire on a crowd of protesters, killing two and wounding six, Arab reports and hospital officials said. Hospital officials identified the fatalities as Jamal Mahmoud Al Madhoun, 20, and Rizik Hussein Abbah, 17.

## Iraqis bomb Iranian oil centres

**BAGHDAD (Agencies) —** Iraq said its planes attacked an oil refinery and petrochemical plant Wednesday in the Iranian city of Shiraz and threatened more raids on economic targets. A high command communiqué said the plants were hit at 11:30 a.m. (0730 GMT) in the first such attacks since April 20, when Iraq declared a unilateral halt to the war of the cities. "Our pilots saw huge columns of smoke billowing from the targets," the communiqué said. Iran claimed it shot down two jets attacking an industrial centre at Shiraz and captured one pilot. It said several civilians were killed in an earlier raid on the city. The Iranian news agency (IRNA) said Iraqi jets later bombed another industrial centre in the oil town of Gachsaran near Shiraz. "Iraq's conditional ceasefire excluded economic targets. Baghdad said Tuesday night Iranian gunners shelled the northern border town of Darbandikhan and warned of retaliation if Iran continued to attack Iraqi residential areas. IRNA denied any shelling. The high command communiqué said Wednesday Iraq would continue attacks on economic targets until Iran accepted U.N. Security Council Resolution 598 ordering a Gulf war ceasefire. The Iraqi air force has been pounding Iran's refineries and other oil installations for months, seeking to throttle its economy and force it to the negotiating table to end the 7½-year-old war. Oil industry sources have reported that Iran's refining capacity has been cut by around one-third in recent weeks because of the bombing. This has forced Iran to import unprecedented amounts of refined products such as kerosene and jet fuel, said the sources, quoted by the AP. IRNA said an industrial plant in the oil-producing Gachsaran region, 160 kilometres west of Shiraz, was also bombed in another Iraqi raid. There was no mention of that raid in the Iraqi communiqué. Both sides have claimed their border towns have come under artillery fire in recent days, but neither has resumed missile or air attacks on population centres.

## Angolan peace talks end in London; progress reported

**LONDON (R) —** South Africa, Angola, Cuba and the United States ended two days of peace talks in London Wednesday and a joint statement reported progress had been made. The statement, issued after three negotiating sessions in an expensive London hotel, said the four nations had agreed that a follow-up meeting would take place at an unnamed African venue in the near future. "The meetings took place in a constructive atmosphere and progress was made," the joint communiqué said. The talks, the first held between the four parties involved in the 13-year-old Angolan war, focused on the withdrawal of foreign troops from Angola and independence for South African-ruled Namibia. "The talks went well and there has been an advance," Cuba's senior negotiator politburo member Jorge Risquet told reporters after the meeting. No details of what was discussed were revealed but diplomats attending the talks stressed the significance of the fact that the four allies and enemies in the Angolan conflict had sat down to negotiate directly for the first time. "It is also significant that there was a joint communiqué and that we talked together for two days," one diplomat, who asked not to be named, said. The meeting, held in a basement conference room, was chaired by Assistant U.S. Secretary of State Chester Crocker who headed the U.S. delegation. A joint Angolan-Cuban delegation, in which Risquet represented Cuba, was headed by Angolan Foreign Minister Afonso van-Dunem while the director of South Africa's department of foreign affairs, Neil van Heerden, led his country's delegation.

## Kanak militants warn France against rescue bid

**NOUMEA (R) —** Militant Melanesian separatists in New Caledonia warned France Wednesday not to use troops to try to rescue 23 hostages held in a cave, saying such an attempt would endanger the hostages' lives. The main independence movement in the South Pacific territory said it believed French soldiers were planning to attack the hideout on the eastern island of Ouvéa, where rebels armed with axes, machetes and guns are holding a magistrate and 22 gendarmes. The Kanak Socialist National Liberation Front (FLNKS), which also requested a "dialogue" with Paris authorities, said in a statement: "We have always guaranteed the lives of the prisoners as long as the French government remains ready to find a peaceful solution. "But otherwise, anything is possible and the French government will have the heavy responsibility of endangering the prisoners' lives." A FLNKS spokesman warned of an uprising in New Caledonia if French soldiers carried out an assault.

a Tuesday shutdown that affected only the Gaza Strip. Few Palestinians went out to their jobs in Israel.

In Ramallah, the only commercial activity seen by an Arab reporter was the selling of newspapers.

Protest marches and stone-throwing incidents were reported throughout the occupied territories and several Palestinians were wounded in clashes with soldiers. In Nablus even bakeries and street vendors which normally remain open during strikes were reported closed Wednesday. The army clamped a curfew on the adjacent Balata refugee camp where one of the Palestinian deaths was reported Tuesday.

The latest deaths raise to 180 the number of Palestinians killed since the uprising began in December.

In Arab Jerusalem, police and border patrol troops blocked the main commercial street of Salaheddin as authorities kept up the pressure on shopkeepers to

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## Rabin outlines Labour peace terms

**LONDON (AP) —** Israeli Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin, in an interview published Wednesday, called for an Arab-Israeli peace settlement entailing a jointly run Jordanian-Palestinian state in 60 per cent of the occupied West Bank and Gaza. He said his Labour Party, which shares power with the right-wing Likud bloc in a coalition, insisted that "Jerusalem must be united under Israeli sovereignty and remain its capital."

The "joint Jordanian-Palestinian state" had to be "under one sovereignty, one government, one flag and one capital — Amman," Rabin told Jane's Defence Weekly.

He ruled out Israeli withdrawal to its pre-1967 borders, saying changes must be made "to be included under Israel's sovereignty."

Also, he said, Israel insisted on a "defence line" along the Jordan Valley, which would effectively leave the rest of the West Bank sandwiched between the Israeli army and the 1948 Armistice lines. Rabin said this meant 60 per cent of the West Bank and Gaza would be part of the Jordanian-Palestinian state.

In handling the five-month-old wave of Palestinian uprising in the West Bank and Gaza, "the political guideline is not to allow violence to gain the upper hand. ...it will achieve nothing," Rabin said.

He declined to deny or confirm reports that Israel and China have jointly developed missiles, saying Israeli policy was to withhold comment on arms deals.

"I will not give you a clearcut answer, but by saying so, I am not confirming anything about the relations between Israel and the People's Republic of China," Rabin said.

He expressed concern about the appearance of ground-to-ground missiles and chemical weapons in the Mideast arena.

## King addresses dignitaries and notables in Mafraq Governorate

# 'Jordan seeks just peace but will not compromise over any inch of Arab land'

**MAFRAQ (Petra) —** His Majesty King Hussein said Wednesday that while Jordan would continue to exert all-out efforts for just and honourable peace in the Middle East it would not compromise or bargain over any inch of Arab land.

In remarks made at an iftar banquet he hosted for dignitaries, notables and officials from Mafraq Governorate, King said that Jordan, side by side with its search for peace, would also continue to build its armed forces to defend itself and shield the rest of

(Continued on page 5)



His Majesty King Hussein receives dignitaries and notables from Mafraq Governorate at an iftar he hosted Wednesday (Petra photo)

## French hostages freed

**BEIRUT (AP) —** Three French hostages held in Lebanon by extremists since 1985 were freed Wednesday in west Beirut, local reports said. Diplomats Marcel Carton and Marcel Fontaine, and journalist Jean Paul Kaufmann were set free near the Summerland hotel in the seaside Jnah neighbourhood at 7:20 p.m. (1720 GMT), local radio stations said.

In Paris, Premier Jacques Chirac confirmed that the last French hostages held in Lebanon had been freed.

The Voice of the Nation radio quoted a reporter at the Summerland hotel as saying the three captives were brought to the hotel in a black Mercedes that carried no plate.

Syrian soldiers took delivery of the three men. The regulars whisked the men into another Mercedes car, a white one, that sped away in the direction of the Syrian army's Beirut headquarters in the nearby Ramlet Al Baida, the reporter was quoted as saying.

The three were the last Frenchmen held in Lebanon. Kidnappers said they had killed a fourth, 38-year-old Arabist researcher Michel Seneut, but his body has not been found.

# Resistance, Israelis fight fierce battles in Lebanon

**AIN AL-TINEH, Lebanon (Agencies) —** Resistance fighters said they fought close-quarter battles with Israeli troops and their Lebanese allies close to Syrian lines in southeast Lebanon Wednesday as helicopter gunships strafed the area.

Heavy fighting was reported on the second day of a drive by some 2,000 Israeli troops and their South Lebanon Army (SLA) allies to root out resistance forces in the area.

An SLA official in the town of Marjayoun, inside Israel's self-declared "security zone" along its northern border, said an Israeli captain was killed and two soldiers were wounded.

Israel said it killed 30 members of the Iranian-backed Hizbollah (Party of God) but censors made deletions in reports on the fighting from the Israeli side.

Dozens of Amal militiamen and Hizbollah fighters, wearing military fatigues and black headbands, crammed into civilian cars to head from this village to join the battle at nearby Maidoun.

Others drove trucks mounted with anti-aircraft guns to the scene, some eight kilometres outside the "security zone."

The militiamen, looking weary but determined, said the combatants were only 20 metres apart at some points in Maidoun.

Security and Hizbollah sources

## Jordan condemns Israeli incursion

**AMMAN (Agencies) —** Information Minister Hani Al Khasawneh said Wednesday Israel's incursion into South Lebanon was a reflection of the Zionist state's intransigence. "Israel's incursion into South Lebanon is a result of their intransigence against the idea of an international Middle East peace conference," he told Reuters. "We believe that Israeli intransigence and the obstacles it puts to a peaceful settlement are the reasons for everything that is happening in the West Bank, Gaza Strip and South Lebanon," he added.

Egypt said Wednesday that the Israeli thrust into Lebanon was an act of military aggression that violates the military state's international obligations. An Egyptian Foreign Ministry spokesman said the Israeli strike would "increase tension



Hani Khasawneh and complicated the situation" in the Middle East.

"Egypt condemns Israel's policy of repeated attacks on the territories of Arab countries and denounces the military aggression on the sovereignty and territorial integrity of sister state Lebanon," said the spokesman.

residents fled the battle. Syrian troops in Mashghara, estimated to number 600, said they were not involved in the battles and it was not clear whether the shells rocking the town hit any of their positions or checkpoints.

"This is a political decision whether we fight or not and so far we have not received orders," said one soldier. Most of the Syrian troops evacuated their checkpoints or were behind sand-bagged positions.

The militiamen said they fired a SAM-7 missile at an Israeli helicopter but did not hit it. They said they destroyed three Israeli tanks.

Reuters correspondents in this village, between Maidoun and Mashghara, said at least 10 Israeli

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# Militia battles flare in Beirut

**BEIRUT (AP) —** Rival militias clashed with mortars across Beirut's dividing green line Wednesday amid reports of growing tension between rightist irregulars and the Lebanese army.

Police said no casualties were reported in the two-hour mortar duel in downtown Beirut's war-shattered old business district around the city's port.

There was no word on what touched off the flareup, the fourth between civil war antagonists in Beirut in two weeks. The clashes have strained a 14-month-old truce in the war that erupted in 1975.

The fighting coincided with a state of alert proclaimed by the 6,000-strong Lebanese Forces, the mostly Christian rightist militia, in east Beirut and the Christian heartland north of the capital. The militia gave no explanation for the alert.

## S. Arabia denies Iranians were attacked

**BAHRAIN (Agencies) —** Saudi Arabia said Wednesday that Iranian diplomats had left the kingdom quietly and denied Tehran's charges that they had been attacked and abducted.

"All Iranian consular and embassy staff in Jeddah and Riyadh left with their belongings in a quiet, secure atmosphere without anyone being harmed," the Saudi Press Agency (SPA) quoted an official as saying.

"The measures taken were routine and in accord with diplomatic norms followed in such cases," the official said.

"What radio Tehran said and was carried by news agencies (Tuesday) is untrue and has no base," he added.

Iran sent an aircraft to pick up diplomats who were given until Tuesday to leave after Riyadh severed ties with Tehran April 26.

## Pakistan: No Kabul move for refugee return

**ISLAMABAD (Agencies) —** Afghanistan has made no preparations for the return of three million Afghan refugees now in Pakistan, a Pakistani Foreign Ministry spokesman said Wednesday.

Only 11 days before the refugees can trek home under an international accord, there are no signs of necessary stockpiles of food, and medicines, or of shelter on the Afghan side of the border, he told reporters.

"We see no effort whatsoever being made by the other side," he said.

He said Pakistan was still only preparing to help the refugees return.

Under the agreement signed in Geneva April 14, Kabul and Islamabad agreed to encourage the refugees to go home after Soviet

troops supporting Kabul start leaving May 15. Washington and Moscow have guaranteed the accord.

The U.N.-sponsored pact's effect, however, could be limited because the Afghan resistance movement, based in Pakistan has refused to recognise the agreement and have said it will fight on.

Pakistan's view was that all uniformed Soviet personnel had to leave Afghanistan within the nine months specified, the spokesman said. That included uniformed advisors.

"If the Soviet Union has a different interpretation, we will have to see," he said.

In an understanding outside the Geneva pact, Washington and Moscow agreed that after May 15 they would refrain from

arming their proteges in Afghanistan, unless the other did so.

## Najibullah in India

Afghan President Najibullah arrived in New Delhi Wednesday for a three-day state visit, his first foreign trip since the signing of the April 14 agreement.

Najibullah was greeted by President R. Venkataraman and Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi at the presidential palace.

The Afghan president told reporters his visit to India was of "historic significance."

Najibullah is to have a series of talks with Gandhi and several cabinet officials, including the minister of finance. Indian newspapers said Wednesday that New Delhi may offer financial assistance to Afghanistan for reconstruction.



Iraqi soldiers hoisting the Iraqi flag on an abandoned Iranian position

## Fao: Beginning of the end for Iranian regime

THE first occupied Arab land to be liberated by military force during the 20th century, the Fao peninsula, is a vast area, extending over 300 square kilometres, full of nature's mishaps and natural obstacles, but to the Iraqis and Arabs it is part of the Arab homeland and it was liberated in a battle that lasted only 34 hours.

The Fao peninsula, known to the Iraqis as the Mamaleh district, is surrounded by water on three sides, with salt constituting the bulk of its soil. Mamaleh, derived from the Arabic word *milh* — salt. This has turned the earth into something similar to quick sands.

The only road into the area was originally built by the Iraqis. This is an open route that runs below sea level. The road could not be used by the Iraqis during their military offensive. The road was protected on both sides by wired

and mined areas placing further difficulties in front of Iraq's past attempts to liberate the Fao.

Since the Fao was occupied by Iran in 1986, Iraq has been training certain factions of its army on a plan that would achieve liberation, they built another Fao somewhere in Iraq, where all the natural features of the area were copied and soldiers were trained over two years.

### Surprise

The crucial element was surprise, and the Iraqi army, backed by proper training, waited for the right moment to put together all the ingredients for victory. The moment came on the first day of the holy month of Ramadan, and the land that took the Iraqis two months and thousands of killed to occupy was liberated only in 34 hours.

Three different corps of the Iraqi army invaded the area at 6:30 a.m. on the first day of Ramadan with the elite presidential guards taking the lead and executing the first two stages of the operation. The cadres of the Iraqi seventh division backed by an armoured division completed the operation.

When this reporter visited the area 11 days after it was liberated, almost all corpses and artillery shells had already been removed. But the aura of war was still in the air overwhelmed only by Iraqis jubilation in their victory.

The first thought that hits the impartial visitor, is the apparent vastness of the area. It extends endlessly as far as the human eye could see, and almost in every metre there is an obstacle of nature's making. One stands there and feels awed: The Arabs have finally achieved a victory, they have liberated an occupied Arab land with force.

Jubilant Iraqi soldiers, greeted the Jordanian press delegation with signs of victory and whispers of what the soldiers call their "little dream," suppressed now by the ongoing Iraq-Iran war, in their minds a duty that one day they will perform is the liberation of another occupied Arab land, Palestine.

The Iraqis left their "finger prints" all over the area. A Sunni mosque's minaret was hit when Iran occupied the area. During



Shat Al Arab

Photos by Khalil Mazraw

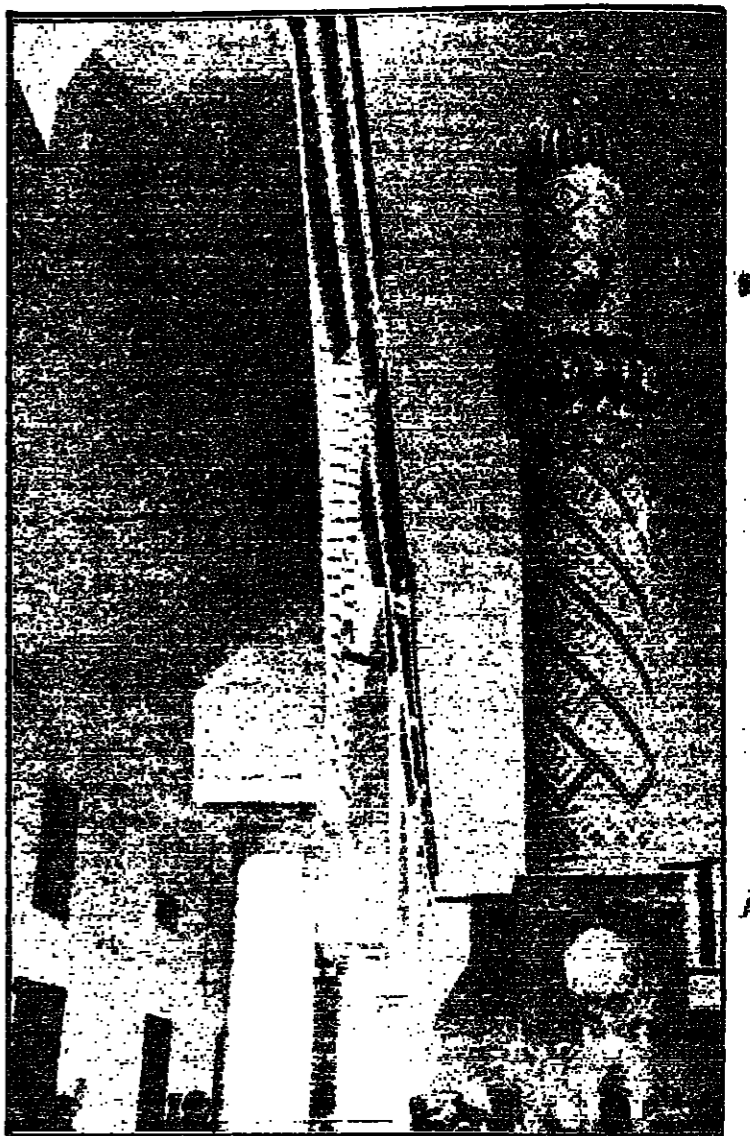
the occupation the Iraqis turned the mosque into part reconnaissance centre and part kitchen. On the other hand, another mosque which was adopted as a Shi'ite mosque by the Iraqis, had pro-Khomeini and Islamic Jihad slogans all over the walls of the mosque.

A library at the Iranian military command centre, housed hundreds of books on Khomeini's Islamic revolution. Some books had in their folds letters by Iranian soldiers to their families.

Visitors to the area, at this stage mostly journalists, were appalled by the huge loss of life. Although bodies had been removed before the arrival of the Jordanian press delegation, this reporter saw body parts littering the sides of the main road into the Fao area. Regardless of whether they were those of Iraqi or Iranian soldiers, journalists' happiness over the Iraqi victory was slightly marred by the horrors of the continuation of the eight-year-old war.

The Iraqi victory in Fao holds wider meaning for the whole Gulf area. Not only is it an Iraqi victory, it is a move that provided the whole Gulf area, especially Kuwait, with protection against the Iranian regime's aggressiveness. As one military official said, "what can I tell you about the Fao victory? It has protected Iraq and the Gulf."

Some analysts who have studied the development of the Gulf war over the past eight years, described the Fao liberation, as the "beginning of the end for the Iranian regime," they also predicted that the war will not continue beyond 1989, ending with an Iraqi victory.



Fao mosque used by occupying Iranian troops



Jordanian journalists with victorious Iraqi soldiers under a portrait of President Saddam Hussein

### TV & RADIO

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##### PROGRAMME ONE

14:00 ..... Koran  
14:20 ..... Programme Review  
14:25 ..... Cartoons  
15:00 ..... Religious series  
15:30 ..... Thousand and One Nights  
16:00 ..... Arabic play  
16:45 ..... Cooking programme  
17:05 ..... Religious series  
17:35 ..... Health and Fasting  
17:45 ..... Arabic comedy  
18:35 ..... Ramadan contest  
19:00 ..... Religious programme  
19:30 ..... Varieties programme  
20:00 ..... News in Arabic  
20:30 ..... Arabic series  
21:30 ..... Puzzles from all over the world  
21:45 ..... Historical series  
22:00 ..... News summary in Arabic  
23:10 ..... Arabic play  
23:20 ..... Religious programme

##### PROGRAMME TWO

18:00 ..... Rue Carnot  
18:30 ..... Le Monde magique de chantal Goya  
19:00 ..... News in French  
19:15 ..... Le Monde Selon Georges  
19:30 ..... News in Hebrew  
19:45 ..... Varieties  
20:00 ..... News in Arabic  
20:30 ..... Historic Chaplin  
21:10 ..... Wish Me Luck  
22:00 ..... News in English  
22:20 ..... Feature film: "Vanishing Act"

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07:00 ..... Light Music  
07:30 ..... Newsdesk  
08:00 ..... Morning Show  
08:30 ..... News Summary  
09:05 ..... Morning Show Contd.  
11:00 ..... Country Music  
11:30 ..... Hitville: The story of Motown  
12:00 ..... News Summary  
12:05 ..... News Music  
13:00 ..... News Summary  
13:05 ..... Pop Session  
14:00 ..... News Bulletin  
14:30 ..... Hall of Fame  
15:00 ..... Concert Hour  
16:00 ..... News Summary  
16:05 ..... Instruments  
16:30 ..... Old Favourites  
17:00 ..... Hitville: The story of Motown  
17:30 ..... News Summary  
18:00 ..... News Summary  
18:05 ..... Our Mutual Friend

#### BBC WORLD SERVICE

639, 720, 1325 KHz

07:00 Newsdesk 07:30 Classical Record Review 07:45 Reflections 07:50 Financial News 08:00 World News 08:09 24 Hours News Summary 08:30 'People's Choice' 08:45 The World Today 09:00 Newsdesk 09:30 Irving Berlin and Friends 09:40 The Farming World 10:00 World News 10:09 24 Hours News Summary 10:30 Andy Kershaw's World of Music 10:45 Network UK 11:00 World News 11:09 Reflections 11:15 Country Style 11:30 John Peel 12:00 World News 12:09 British Press Review 12:15 The World Today 12:30 Financial News 12:45 Newsdesk 13:00 News Summary followed by Assignment 13:30 King Street Junior 14:00 World News 14:09 News About Britain 14:15 New Ideas 14:25 A Letter from England 14:30 Citizens 15:00 Radio News 15:15 Multitrack 2 15:45 Sports Round-up 16:00 World News 16:09 24 Hours News Summary 16:30 Network UK 16:45 Jazz Scene 17:00 Outlook, opening with 5-Minute News 17:45 Write On... 18:00 Radio News 18:15 The Pleasure of News 19:00 World News 19:09 Commentary 19:15 Assignment 19:45 The World Today 20:00 World News

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### WHAT'S GOING ON

#### TODAY'S EVENTS

##### EXHIBITIONS

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★ Permanent book exhibition, at Tower Building, Jabal Amman, 3rd Circle.

★ The Annual Cultural Festival at the University of Jordan.

★ Photo exhibition at Swedish Organisation for Individual Relief at Sweilch, from 9:30 a.m. to 2 p.m.

★ School exhibition, at Sulaima Bint Al Hussein School, Jabal Hussein.

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★ "My Favourite Year" at 5:00 p.m. Thursday at the American Centre.

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## Minister meets envoys

AMMAN (Petra) — Higher Education Minister Nassereddine Al Assad Wednesday met with Pakistani Ambassador to Jordan Saghir Hussein Syed to discuss Jordanian-Pakistani cooperation in higher education.

They also reviewed the conditions of Jordanian students in Pakistani universities in the light of the recent Pakistani government increases of university fees. The minister and the ambassador discussed the prospect of exempting Jordanian students from paying the extra fees if they were registered at Pakistani universities before the new regulations were issued.

Later the minister met with the Indonesian Ambassador here Sumario Socio Kosomo to discuss Jordanian-Indonesian cooperation in higher education.

The discussion covered the exchanges of visits by university students and the signing of a cultural agreement.



Higher Education Minister Nassereddine Al Assad meets with Pakistani Ambassador to Jordan Saghir Hussein Syed (above) and Indonesian Ambassador to Jordan Sumario Socio Kosomo (below) in his office Wednesday (Petra photo)



## French centre, Yarmouk discuss cooperation

IRBID (Petra) — Cooperation between the French national research centre in Paris and Yarmouk University was discussed at a meeting here Wednesday by Yarmouk University President Mohammad Hamdan and the French centre's research department director.

The French centre is specialised in archaeological excavations and is conducting excavations at

the Abu Hamid site in cooperation with Yarmouk University.

The president and the French visitor discussed the prospect of publishing the findings of the excavation work and also setting up an exhibition in September to display Jordan's antiquities and newly discovered artifacts in cooperation with the Jordanian Department of Antiquities.

## Zarqa governorate to plant more trees

ZARQA (Petra) — The Agricultural Department in Zarqa has embarked on a process to remove and eliminate weeds in the forest regions at Aalouk, Bierien and Massarat regions in the Zarqa governorate, according to department officials.

They said that the department at the same time embarked on a programme of planting forest

trees along side the Zarqa River with the purpose of preventing soil erosion and beautification of the area.

Trees will be planted along 16 kilometres, stretching from Tawahin Al Udwan to the Al Shukmeh River.

The total number of trees to be planted they said, will be nearly 26,000.

## Society for handicapped holds cultural programme

AMMAN (Petra) — A day-long activities, by the Al Hussein Society for the Rehabilitation of the Physically Handicapped, was held Wednesday at the society headquarters in Amman.

The activities comprised cultural and recreational programmes designed to encourage handicapped children to become creative and participate in useful work.

The activities which were sponsored and organised by the Noor Al Hussein Foundation (NHF)

offer handicapped children a good opportunity to embark on inventive and creative work of their own.

The NHF is sponsoring these activities within a special educational programme, which is being implemented in cooperation with the Ministry of Education and the Ministry of Higher Education, and which entails training instructors in means of imparting education to handicapped children.

## Dajani, Zawaideh visit architectural exhibition

AMMAN (Petra) — The question of building governors residents in Jordan's different governorates in a similar architectural style was discussed here Wednesday at a meeting attended by Minister of Interior Rajai Dajani and Minister of Public Works and Housing Shafiq Zawaideh. Both ministers later visited an

architectural exhibition set up by the Ministry of Public Works displaying architectural projects that are entries in a competition which will decide the best and most suitable for governors' residents.

Thirteen engineering offices in Jordan have taken part in the competition.

## Jordan marks World Traffic Day

# Accidents increased by 2,077 cases in 1987 over 1986

AMMAN (J.T.) — Road accidents in Jordan last year increased by 2,077 over those that occurred in the previous year, causing 32 more deaths and 1,427 injuries over 1986 figures and considerable material damage, Interior Minister Rajai Dajani said Wednesday.

Addressing a special celebration at the Royal Cultural Centre in Amman to mark "World Traffic Day," the minister said the occasion offers a good opportunity for all members of the public to reassess the situation and try to reduce accidents on the roads by all possible means.

"All concerned parties, including motorists, pedestrians and departments responsible for roads, should join forces to bring an end to the carnage on roads; and all responsible officials should work towards finding solutions to problems impeding progress in this respect," the minister said.

"The Interior Ministry in 1984 introduced a traffic law, which caters for all issues pertaining to traffic problems, and it continues to introduce amendments to the law to adapt it to new developments," the minister added.

He said the traffic department does all it can to organise traffic on roads and city streets, and continues to test cars and other vehicles to determine their fitness for the roads in order to ensure safety.

"People are the most responsible element for this safety, and are also responsible for road accidents," the minister stressed.

He said the 1987 road accident figures indicated that most accidents took place last year due to lack of proper attention on the part of the motorists, violations of traffic rules, speeding and wrong overtaking.

He said the whole society

should be involved in the process of preventing road accidents through public awareness, campaigns, teaching children in the use of roads and other available means.

"In fact, awareness in the field of road safety and traffic rules should be one of the subjects that must be introduced at schools and higher educational institutions," Dajani noted.

He said legal measures against violators are not enough to stop the accidents. Other means should be used to introduce a change in the conduct of motorists on the roads.

Last November, a three-day symposium on the prevention of road accidents was held in Amman under the patronage of His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan.

Dajani who deputised for the Crown Prince then said that road accidents have become an increasingly dangerous phenomenon, threatening human lives and causing severe damage to economic and social development.

Other speakers at the ceremony held at the Royal Cultural Centre Wednesday included Public Security Department (PSD) Deputy Director Nasouh Muhieddin, Dr. Zuhair Malhas, president of the Jordanian Society for the Prevention of Road Accidents (JSPRA), and PSD officers.

Arab Traffic Day The ceremony also marks the

beginning of an Arab Traffic Week and serves as a reminder to everyone of the duty to help reduce road accidents and minimise human and material losses, according to JSPRA officials.

They said that 1987 witnessed material losses estimated at JD 62 million as a result of accidents on the Kingdom's roads.

These accidents last year caused the death of 395 people and the injury of 8,957 others, according to these officials quoting PSD statistics.

According to these statistics also last year the PSD issued fines to 569,341 violators of traffic rules and many violators were referred to court for trial.

Number of vehicles rises

Malhas was quoted by Al Rai Arabic daily as saying that at the start of the present decade there were 135,000 vehicles in the Kingdom, rising to the present day number of 250,000.

The huge number of cars congested roads which did not increase in length in the same proportion, he added.

Malhas said that motorists remain the main cause of all accidents, and for this reason, this year's celebrations are being held under the slogan: "Slow Down" and "Be Careful So as to Arrive Safely."

According to official PSD statistics, there were 14,373 accidents in the Kingdom in 1983, causing the death of 443 people; in 1984 these accidents rose to 15,917 with 493 dead; in 1985, 16,078 accidents with 524 dead; in 1986, 14,068 accidents with 355 dead and in 1987 there were 15,904 accidents causing the death of 395 people.

JSPRA Secretary General Rawhi Sharif said that statistics have shown that 65 per cent of the

accidents are caused by motorists and 35 per cent are blamed on the condition of roads and vehicles.

The World Traffic Day, Sharif said, "is an occasion for stock-taking and revision of these figures by everyone so that lessons can be taken for the future."

The society, he said, is now striving to reduce the number of accidents at least 10 per cent during 1988.

Jordan has been observing World Traffic Day on May 4 since 1975 in implementation of a U.N. resolution adopted in 1984.

PSD Deputy Director Major General Nasouh Muhieddin said in a statement to Al Rai daily that the occasion was a good chance for members of the public to review previous accident figures and take extra care to avoid similar occurrences.

He appealed to motorists to help reduce the number of accidents by taking extra care on the roads which, he said, are now more busy and congested than any time in the past.

The PSD, he said, is "with all its might to improve traffic services on roads in Jordan and is also active in its attempts to allow only those careful motorists and road-worthy vehicles to use the roads."

Towards the end of the ceremony at the Royal Cultural Centre, the Interior Minister distributed awards and cups to a number of ministries, departments, societies and trade unions which took active participation in measures and campaigns designed to reduce road accidents.

Among those honoured on the occasion also was a group of journalists and officials at Radio Jordan and Jordan Television who contributed to these campaigns.

## Khayyat, preachers discuss Islamic issues

IRBID (Petra) — Minister of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs Sheikh Abdul Aziz Al Khayyat Wednesday chaired a meeting here for Imams and preachers of mosques in the Irbid governorate, during which issues related to religious guidance and preaching were reviewed.

The minister reviewed a number of issues of concern to Muslims and called on preachers and religious guides to familiarise Muslims with these issues.

Sheikh Khayyat also discussed the ministry's Zakat (alms to the poor) Fund and its role in providing aid to needy families and to the Palestinian uprising in the occupied Arab territories.

The Zakat Fund gives aid to the families of martyrs and to students whose financial resources have been cut off due to the ongoing Palestinian uprising.

Sheikh Khayyat also pointed out the Israeli measures against Arab citizens in the occupied Arab territories.

The minister earlier Wednesday called at the Irbid governor's house where he met with Irbid Governor Akram Al Nasser and discussed with him issues related to the Awqaf and Islamic Affairs Department in the governorate. Also on Wednesday Sheikh Khayyat discussed Jordanian-Indonesian cooperation in religious affairs with Indonesian Ambassador to Jordan Sumario Socio Kosomo.

## RJ launches Miami route

AMMAN (J.T.) — Royal Jordanian (RJ), the national carrier, has launched a new route between Amman and Miami, Florida.

An RJ TriStar left Amman for Miami Tuesday thus opening a fourth route between Jordan and the United States.

The Jordanian capital has links with New York, Chicago and Los Angeles.

The wide-bodied TriStars will be making twice weekly trips between Amman and Miami Tuesdays and Thursdays, according to an RJ official.

He said with the opening of the new route, RJ planes are now reaching 42 destinations around the world.

Miami he added is close to Latin America, which has a large Arab and Jordanian population, and for this reason RJ is launching a new programme to encourage tourists from the two Americas to visit the archaeological places in the Kingdom.



FAYEZ RECEIVES ENVOY: Speaker of the Lower House of Parliament Akel Al Fayed has received a cable of thanks from Iraqi President Saddam Hussein in reply to the cable of congratulations which he earlier sent to the Iraqi leader on the occasion of Iraq's liberation of the Fao peninsula from the Iranians. The cable is being delivered to Fayed Wednesday by Iraqi Ambassador in Amman Ghafel Jassem Hussein. In his cable President Hussein expressed his appreciation for Mr. Fayed's brotherly feelings towards Iraq (Petra photo)

## Awajan School to welcome students

AMMAN (USIA) — Maintenance workers are scrubbing the latest traces of construction dust from the Awajan School in preparation for its inspection by Ministry of Education and Ministry of Public Works officials.

The brand new 3-storey school in Zarqa is one of 15 schools of the same design that will open for the 88-89 school year.

The schools have been built under the watchful eye of Abdullah Ahmed who is both a parent of 5 school-age children and a senior engineer with the United States Agency for International Development (USAID).

The compulsory level schools will serve children in Grades 1-9. The government of Jordan has provided both land and some 25 per cent of the cost of constructing and equipping each school, while USAID provided about 75 per cent of these costs.

Ahmed has consulted with teachers and administrators in making improvements to the basic school design. As a result two of the classrooms in the Awajan School convert to a large meeting room when the folding partition between them is opened.

The stairs of Awajan is made of local marble, another one of Ahmed's innovations.

Marble is safer and more durable than the terrazzo which is used for the floors, because it does not chip when used in stairways.

Daylight from interior-wall windows fills the length of the wide, open corridors.

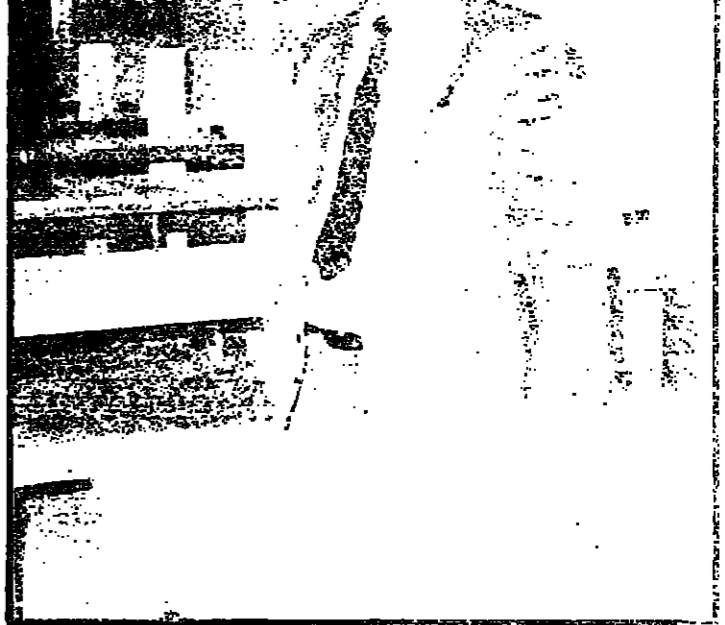
Awajan School will be complete with a science laboratory, library, cafeteria, and playground.

A separate building houses the vocational laboratory with facilities for horticulture, electrical work, carpentry work, sewing and food preparation. The kitchen classroom has modern cabinets and counters made by a Zarqa firm, and is equipped with four stoves and refrigerators. Twenty sewing machines will be used in the sewing classroom.

Ahmed is currently monitoring the construction of another 25 schools that will be completed for the year 1989-1990 school year.

Construction costs for the handsomely designed and furnished schools is a modest JD 65-80 per square metre.

USAID has committed \$30 million towards the school construction project. Through Ahmed's careful management, the original 40 schools in the project will be completed under budget, leaving a remainder of \$3.7 million which will be used for five additional schools.



Abdullah Ahmad surveys science lab in Awajan School

## NATIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

**TEACHERS REDISTRIBUTION:** The Department of Education in Ma'an Wednesday discussed redistribution of teachers at schools in the governorate, and the condition of schools in Ma'an area in the presence of school principals. Also discussed were financial and administrative affairs at schools.

**SEMINAR ON SHEEP:** A seminar was held in Karak Wednesday on means of fattening sheep for the market. The participants, who included members of the Karak agricultural cooperatives, discussed projects underway for fattening sheep, diseases affecting the animals and means of protection against diseases through vaccinations.

**TALKS WITH WORLD BANK:** Ministry of Planning Secretary General Ziyad Fariz will pay a visit to Washington next month for negotiations with World Bank officials to obtain a \$60 million loan to Jordan. The loan will be used to finance a number of telecommunications projects, which will be carried out by the Telecommunications Corporation (TCC) to upgrade telecommunication in the Kingdom.

**LABOUR CONFERENCE:** Minister of Labour and Social Development Rashid Ureikat will lead Jordan's delegation to the international labour conference which will be held in Geneva in June. A working paper on the condition of Arab workers in the occupied territories will be submitted to the three-day conference.

**MAN JAILED FOR 8 YEARS:** The military court has sentenced Khaleel Musa Abdullah Hassan to six years imprisonment and fined him JD 1,500 for trafficking heroin. The sentence has been endorsed by the military governor.

**DELEGATION NAMED:** The cabinet has formed Jordan's delegation to the meetings of the executive bureau of Arab Transport Ministers Council which will be held in Tunis on June 21. The delegation will be led by Minister of Transport and Communications Khaled Al Haj Hassan. The two-day meeting will discuss working papers on ways to boost inter-Arab relations in land, sea and air transport.

**ENVOY TO TUNIS:** Jordan's Ambassador in Tunis Wednesday discussed with officials at the Tunisian Ministry of Transport and Tourism, bilateral cooperation in tourism especially after the operation of a new air route between Amman and Tunis. The ambassador also discussed Jordanian-Tunisian cooperation in the field of information with the director general of the Tunisian Radio and Television.

**TABBAA MEETS SUDDARTH:** American Ambassador to Jordan Roscoe Suddarth discussed with Minister of Industry, Trade and Supply Hamdi Tabbaa Wednesday Jordanian-U.S. relations. The meeting took place at the minister's office.

**POLISH AIDE:** Foreign Ministry Secretary General Nabih Al Nimer Wednesday met with the director of the Middle East and African Relations Department at the Polish Foreign Ministry currently on a visit to Jordan and reviewed with him Jordanian-Polish relations.

**DONATIONS:** The Jordanian public committee for supporting the Palestinian people in the occupied Arab territories has received JD 850,000 in donations for the people living under Israeli rule, according to Al Dustour Arabic daily.

**COMPENSATION:** Authorities responsible for the development of the Badia regions plan to offer compensation to bedouins for the loss of their water, which is being drawn from Badia areas and to be used for carrying out comprehensive development schemes in different regions. A total of 18 million cubic metres of water were being used annually for projects in Jafr, Disi and Shidiyah phosphate mines; and also from Azraq, north east of Amman, according to Al Dustour newspaper.

**ABANDA LEAVES FOR CHINA:** Meteorology Department Director Ali Abanda left for Peking Wednesday on a two-week visit organised by the International Telecommunications Union (ITU). The visit is in the course of a special ITU programme of technical cooperation in developing countries, carried out within the framework of the United Nations Development Programme. During the visit Abanda will hold talks with officials and tour a number of meteorology centres in China.

**TRANSPORT TALKS:** Officials from Jordan and Egypt will open a three-day meeting in Cairo Saturday to discuss measures for improving and developing transportation between the two countries via the Aqaba-Nuweiba ferry route.



## Paris based Al Kindi to perform in Amman

By Jean-Claude Elias  
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — The French Cultural Centre (CCF) presents the group Al Kindi in a concert of traditional classical Arabic music on Saturday May 7 at 8:30 p.m. at the Haya Arts Centre.

Based in Paris, France, and led by Julien Weiss who is also its founder, the ensemble includes Larbi Ouichini on the 'kaman', Mohammad Saada on the 'nay', Adel Shamsuddin on the 'darbuka' and Julien Weiss on the 'qanoun'.

The kaman is the oriental violin tuned in fourth instead of fifth, the nay is much similar to the flute, the darbuka is a single drum the name of which comes from the Arabic 'darb ul iqah' meaning 'the rhythm path' according to the eminent musicologist Ms. Yusra Arnita, and the qanoun is an Arabic stringed instrument comprising 78 horizontal strings. Mr. Weiss is French while his fellow musicians come from Tunisia and Egypt.

Though coming from different countries, Al Kindi musicians share a common love from the traditional forms of classical Arabic music found in Syria, Egypt and in the Arab-Andalusian roots.

They also share an impressive background of high musical education in both the Western and Oriental styles, in France and Egypt.

Julien Weiss has studied and worked with some of the most celebrated Arab masters, while Larbi Ouichini has a degree in harmony, counterpoint and orchestration from the famous Schola Cantorum.

Al Kindi play genuine Arabic music. They have perfectly assimilated the essence and the spirit of the specific style they have adopted. They have even added the exactness and the precision of Western classical forms to the Arabic music without diminishing its flexibility, its subtlety or its charming power of improvisation.

Julien Weiss' soli on the qanoun are beautiful and typical examples of these possibilities.

The group knows how to make the best with the Arabic music strong points: rhythm and melody.

Listening to Al Kindi music, Mohammad Abdul Razek Abu Bakr, an Egyptian living in Jordan, said it reminded him of what the famous 'Arabian Music Orchestra' used to play in Cairo.

The orchestra is known for their instrumental rendering of the songs of Oum Kuthoum, the late Egyptian singer.

In times when some critics find the music of the Arab World too archaic and surpassed by Western music, the initiative of Julien Weiss sheds a new light on music appreciation. The performance of Al Kindi Saturday should equally attract lovers of both Western and Oriental styles.

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## A proposal worth exploring

THE suggestion last week by Italian Socialist Party leader Bettino Craxi that the European Community (EC) could administer the West Bank and Gaza for a transitional period, until a negotiated Arab-Israeli settlement materialises, should spark an interesting debate about possible alternatives to the current status quo. Such a proposal cannot be accepted or rejected out of hand, in isolation from all other aspects of the Arab-Israeli conflict. We should point out, however, that we are impressed by Mr. Craxi's call insofar as it demonstrates a willingness to address pressing issues in a caring and creative manner. Whether or not the EC is the most appropriate body to administer the Palestinian lands remains for the involved parties to decide. We like the manner in which Mr. Craxi has the courage and the honesty to point out to the world that the Israeli occupation of the West Bank and Gaza is intolerable, and that practical steps should be taken to alleviate the physical and mental hardships suffered by the Palestinians who live there.

The European Community has always sought to dwell in the political middle ground, where what is right and what is politically possible can be brought together in an effective policy. The EC has not always been as decisive as we would like it to be, on the grounds that it lacks the political clout needed to move the protagonists in the Middle East, or the superpowers further afield. But the Europeans are largely unfettered by the constraints of the superpowers, and they enjoy the benefit of credibility and good working relations with all sides — namely the Arab states, the PLO and Israel.

More importantly, the Europeans stand in stark contrast to the American government, in that they are more clear about the need to satisfy Palestinian national rights, along with assuring Israel's security, as the essential prerequisites of a peaceful resolution of the Arab-Israeli conflict. An EC mandate to administer the occupied territories — perhaps on the legal strength of a formal mandate from the United Nations, based on the partition resolution of 1947, which remains the internationally recognised basis for Israel's creation — would perhaps create a climate of less Israeli frenzy and more concerted Arab diplomatic dynamism, while removing some of the very real and harsh oppression which the Palestinians suffer from on a daily basis. The Italian reputation for flair, and fairness, remains intact.

### ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

#### Al Ra'i: No one is surprised

NO one in the Arab World was surprised by Israel's new act of aggression on South Lebanon, especially in view of the current situation in the Middle East. Israel, faced with an uprising in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip, and being unable to end the revolt, has resorted to a new act of aggression to divert the Israeli people's attention to an external danger and to restore confidence in the Israeli troops who failed to end the uprising. The new Israeli aggression on Lebanon does not aim at taking revenge on the Palestinian and Lebanese population only, but also is designed to cause splits between the Lebanese and the Palestinians living in the south. Israeli troops who conducted wide scale search operations detaining hundreds of people in this new offensive is calling on the Lebanese to create local governments and to cooperate with the enemy against their own country and their own legitimate government in Beirut. This is clearly a plan aimed to further dismember Lebanon and its people and eventually serve the objectives of Israel. The new aggression, coming six years after the invasion of Lebanon is perhaps intended to restore self-confidence in the Israeli society which had been deeply split over the Israeli army's failure to achieve its goals in Lebanon, and to put down the revolt in the occupied territories. The new invasion should prompt all peace-loving nations and the United Nations to help our region to restore peace which can ensure an end to Israel's atrocities, and bring back security and stability to the Middle East area.

#### Al Dustour: King's pride

AT the iftar banquet hosted by the King at the Al Hussein Youth City, the monarch reiterated his deep pride in the Jordanian family and in the country whose men, he said, are determined to sacrifice anything in defence of the nation. The King compared the Kingdom to a strong fortress constantly being protected by its men, and standing firm in the face of all conspiracies and enemy attempts for expansion and aggression. The King who reviewed with his audience the country's achievements over the past 35 years of his rule, gave his people cause to renew their self-confidence and their determination to achieve more successes. The King paid tribute to the people of the occupied territories who he said are confronting the Israeli enemy and thwarting Israeli plans through their course of struggle for freedom. The monarch also paid tribute to the Iraqi people who are defending Arab soil in the face of Persian aggression on the Arab Nation. The King's address to his people revived self-confidence and rekindled optimism and new aspirations and hopes for the future.

#### Sawt Al Shaab: Nation not daunted by invaders

WHAT is going on in Iraq and Palestine is constantly on the mind of King Hussein who said Tuesday that the Arab people are sacrificing everything for the defence of Arab land against external forces and foreign aggression. In his iftar banquet, the King stressed that the Arab Nation is undaunted by the different attacks by foreign invaders since the Arab people are ready to stand together with all their might to repel aggression and end injustice and achieve victory. The people of Jordan will remain committed to supporting the people of Palestine and Iraq in the face of danger in implementation of the principles of the Great Arab Revolt. King Hussein said that Jordan will fight alongside with its sister Arab states whenever any battle is imposed on any Arab country. This country, the monarch said, will remain a staunch supporter of all Arabs and will continue to strive to fulfil national aspirations. Jordan, King Hussein said, will continue to work and fight alongside all Arabs in the face of those harbouring evil intentions against this nation.

## Anti-apartheid papers struggle to survive in South Africa

By Rich Mkhondo  
Reuters

JOHANNESBURG — Gabu Tugwana, acting editor of The New Nation, surveys a newsroom where journalists labour to produce a paper that only they will read.

This scene has been played out daily since March 22, when the South African government gagged the anti-apartheid paper with a renewable three-month ban. "We still produce a mock paper for our staff and stockpile stories for June 10 when we finally hit the streets," Tugwana added.

Tugwana remains defiant although the paper's editor Zwicklke Sisulu is in jail — detained without charges under emergency regulations — and the publication ban could be extended for further three-month periods until the new nation's Roman Catholic Church backers can no longer subsidise it.

"We will not stop fighting, we will not stop protesting against Pretoria's unjust practices. The closure of the paper would not be the first attack on basic democratic freedoms — not would it be the last," Tugwana said. Meanwhile bored reporters

wonder about their futures as they fill in the time in their run-down offices.

The newsrooms of every outspoken anti-government newspaper in South Africa may soon look like this as the government presses home its attack on the non-commercial "alternative press," using the tough emergency regulations announced last August.

The alternative press, largely backed by community organisations and anti-apartheid groups including churches, see their duty as reporting the facts which the commercial papers are too cautious to print.

#### Gov't warnings

The government has already issued warnings to the Weekly Mail, to South, a Cape Town-based weekly, to the top-selling black daily the Sowetan and six other publications. The Sowetan, though run by and aimed at blacks, is a commercial paper owned by white big business. The reasons for its warnings are not clear.

According to Tugwana, the government is using three-month bans to disguise the fact it is shutting the newspapers down for ever. "But that is what they mean to do," he said.

The New Nation used to sell about 60,000 copies a week and had a much wider readership.

Tugwana said he had received thousands of letters from concerned readers and had scores of sympathetic visitors.

Last week two members of West Germany's Greens Party dropped in for a 45-minute meeting with Tugwana, after which they praised the paper as the true voice of voteless blacks.

"What is it about The New Nation that irritates the South African government? I guess it must be its stand against apartheid," said Greens member of parliament Willi Hoss.

Pretoria has praised "the commercial press" — papers owned as profit-making ventures by businesses — saying there has been a reduction in reporting that could promote a revolutionary climate, one of the grounds on which the government can close a newspaper under the emergency regulations.

#### Next in line

But Charles Villa-Vicencio, chairman of the trustees of South Newspaper, said the commercial press could be next in line after the government is finished with the alternative press. Meanwhile, Home Affairs

Minister Stoffel Botha last week warned the Weekly Mail it could be next in line to be shut for three months under the government's press curbs.

Weekly Mail associate editor Irwin Manoim said in an article Thursday that for his paper the three month suspension is the same as a death sentence. The paper does not have the same backing as The New Nation.

"Suspension will indeed mean death — commercial death. And the minister will be free to say his hands are clean, he did not close us," Manoim said.

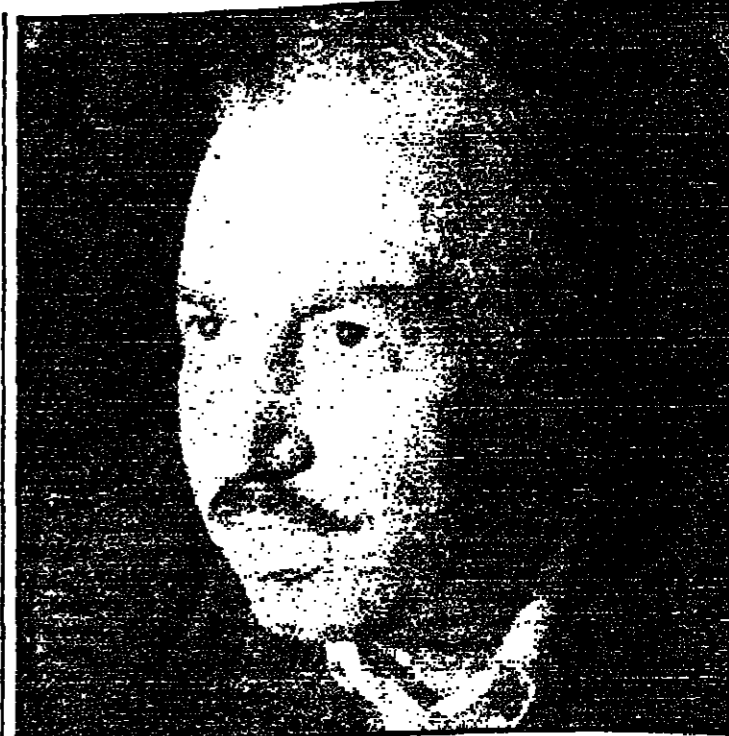
Manoim said supporters of the alternative press formed a committee last month to fight for their survival.

"If we are closed down, we won't go unnoticed," he said.

In Cape Town, Rashid Seria, editor of South, said he expected his newspaper would be closed down this month.

"The minister has given us till the 4th of May to argue, but we believe he plans to close us down, most definitely," Seria said.

He said South, with weekly sales of 12,000, would have trouble surviving a three-month closure "but it is true that we are getting a lot of support and pledges of assistance."



Khalil Al Wazir

## Farewell to a friend

Dr. Uri Davis, an expatriate Israeli research fellow in Middle Eastern studies at British universities and a Jewish anti-Zionist, commemorates Wazir:

To my brother, Abu Jihad, my friend, I write after your criminal assassination in the hands of the enemy. I write in memory of a most decent human being and a leader among his Palestinian people. I am not the only anti-Zionist Jewish citizen of Israel who had the privilege of knowing you. Any person who is citizen of the state of Israel and who declares himself your friend exposes himself or herself to danger from the same which shed your blood. I will assume this responsibility.

You have been charged by your people to resist Israeli occupation, guided by a vision of a future liberated Palestine, subject to international legality, United Nations charter and all U.N.

resolutions, where all Palestinian-Arabs, residents, exiles and refugees and all the Jewish residents of the country will live in freedom, harmony and peace.

The Israeli government accuses you of murder: of being the Palestinian leader who is most responsible for the shedding of Jewish Israeli blood. Wrong.

Your hands are clean of murder. Yours are not. They came under the cover of dark and murdered you in front of your family. They are hoping to breed hatred in the hearts of your children, brothers, friends, comrades, people. They will fail.

With quiet perseverance and constancy, you built with your brothers in the leadership of the PLO the beginning towards a future of freedom and dignity in Palestine. Your life and your work stand as a monument for the future — The Guardian.

## Tamil rebels take to the jungle

By Marilyn Odchimar  
Reuters

VAVUNIYA, Sri Lanka — Sri Lanka's Tamil Tiger rebels once entertained visitors with sumptuous meals at a Chinese restaurant in the northern city of Jaffna after showing them round bomb-making factories, training camps and fortified bunkers.

But last October Indian troops drove the separatist guerrillas out of the Jaffna peninsula. Now the hospitality offered by the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) is simpler — home-cooked vegetables, meat curry and rice, eaten with the fingers in a jungle hut.

After the Indian offensive the Tigers moved south of the peninsula to regroup in the Vanni, a large area of jungle and rice-fields.

"The Vanni is ideal for guerrillas," says a senior Sri Lankan military officer. "There are probably 1,000 armed terrorists in the Vanni and about 3,000 to 4,000 members who provide the logistics."

Up to 50,000 Indian soldiers have been sent to Sri Lanka's northern and eastern provinces to enforce a pact between Colombo and New Delhi aimed at ending the guerrillas' fight for a separate Tamil homeland.

An estimated 30,000 of the Indians have fanned out in the Vanni, where the Tigers now have their main base.

But the rebels are adopting the classic guerrilla strategy of avoiding direct confrontation.

When the troops moved against the Tigers' base earlier this month, the rebels pulled out. They came back after the Indians

left.

"We have not retreated in the jungles. We've just scattered ourselves after Jaffna," said the Tigers' local political commander Dinesh.

Journalists still meet the rebels in the Vanni. But in the jungle the Tigers can no longer display the public panache of their days in urban Jaffna.

The guerrillas' nearest base to an Indian checkpoint is a 25-minute drive along a dirt road that snakes around paddy fields and the huts of poor farmers.

Dinesh, who carried a Luger pistol tucked in his sarong, says the Indian peacekeeping force (IPKF) can deploy more soldiers, long-range mortars and helicopters than the Sri Lankan troops his men confronted before the Colombo-New Delhi pact.

"We can physically round up a place easily unlike the Sri Lankans," he said.

"But only the public is affected. The LTTE is not much affected by the IPKF. For our own safety we don't fight too much. It doesn't mean we don't want to face the IPKF."

A Sri Lankan officer said it was difficult to surround the rebels in the Vanni.

"You have to approach from all four directions and with at least 200 troops," he said. "You can't easily round up a place because the element of surprise is gone."

The officer added: "The terrorists still have a very, very good radio communications network. But the IPKF has improved over the last month in their road checking and deception planning."

## Debt crisis: Working for a solution

By Ljiljana Prosic-Krakovic

A PROPOSAL to establish a debtors' forum and an action plan for resolving the debt crisis were the most important results of the second meeting of the South Commission held in Kuala Lumpur in March, said Yugoslav's delegate to the meeting Dr. Augustin Papic.

Set up at the initiative of the 1986 non-aligned summit in Harare, the Geneva-based independent international commission, known as the Nyerere South Commission, is made up of some 30 politicians and economists from the developing countries.

The Kuala Lumpur meeting formulated guidelines for ex-

change of information and coordination of the developing countries' actions in resolving debt and development problems.

In view of the growing interdependence of economic trends in the world and wishing to make a concrete contribution to the resolving of crucial problems, the commission adopted a programme of its activity and a statement on the external debt.

In the absence of global negotiations and at a time when the debt crisis is deepening and debt servicing has become an unsustainable burden on the economies of most countries, the commission gave priority to developing trade, openness of markets, commodity prices, interest rates and

financing of projects in low-income and medium-developed countries which have large foreign debts.

Noting that no progress has been made in resolving the debt crisis, the participants said it was no longer possible to sustain the outflow of resources, amounting to over \$500 billion, from developing to developed countries. Limitations of terms on International Monetary Fund and World Bank lending and the creditors' cartel which debtors face in negotiations compound the problem. The commission therefore proposed the establishment of a debtors' forum.

The forum is not conceived as a cartel. Its purpose is to exchange information and concert actions,

Papic specified. He said the meeting emphasised that the debt crisis can best be solved through global negotiations involving both creditors and debtors. Without negotiations, the developing countries will have no option but to limit debt service payments to an amount consistent with the requirements of their development.

It should be noted that none of the participants claimed that the debt cannot be repaid. On the contrary, experiences in the 19th and 20th centuries shows that solutions exist and that they must be sought primarily in enhancing understanding and cooperation between the North and the South — Tanjug features.

## Diplomats and conservationists argue over Antarctica

By Andrew Allison  
Reuters

WELLINGTON — Antarctica's bleakness and inhospitable conditions have long protected it from human activity but the potential mineral wealth of the frozen continent is making it ripe for exploitation.

Diplomats and enemy officials from 37 Antarctic treaty nations are meeting in Wellington this month to set mining rules during the Antarctic minerals convention. Several environmental organisations are on hand to voice their opposition.

The two groups are not strangers. Since the first convention in 1982, also in Wellington, they have travelled the globe together thrashing out ground rules for Antarctica's future. Six conventions later a draft being considered at the month-long meeting that began on May 2 says it is time for a ruling on mining.

The continent has been protected for 30 years by the Antarctic treaty, which ensures its freedom from weapons and nuclear power and promotes the sharing of scientific information. The treaty says nothing about mineral exploitation.

New Zealand diplomat Chris Beeby, who has chaired all the conventions, expects a final re-

solution on mining by June 2, to the chagrin of groups like Greenpeace, Friends of the Earth and the Antarctic and Southern Oceans Coalition, ASOC.

Interest in the resources of Antarctica has grown markedly since New Zealand suggested in 1975 that Antarctica should be made a world park. The suggestion was rejected by treaty countries who would not commit themselves to leaving Antarctic wealth underground in perpetuity. This interest in mineral wealth has led to the decision to formalise rights to these resources.

#### Part of the truth

The rules were virtually set at the last convention in Wellington in January and most diplomats consider them protective of the sensitive environment.

"It will set environmentally tough standards which will make it tougher than any other international treaty that has ever been negotiated," a New Zealand diplomat, who did not wish to be identified, told Reuters.

Catherine Wallace, the New Zealand convener of ASOC, says this is only part of the truth.

"Yes, it is an improvement (on other such treaties) but it's still pretty terrible," she said. She says it is being compared with other treaties that have only

"meagre environmental provisions."

The convention's rules should be assessed against other mining regimes rather than environmental treaties, she says.

"Its major function is not to protect the environment but to facilitate mining and to provide political accommodations between the parties," she said.

Wallace says ASOC and the 200 environmental groups under its umbrella want Antarctica declared a world park.

But Antarctic treaty countries fear dwindling world energy reserves could cause countries to ignore the ice's world park status in "an unregulated scramble" for its resources. They say regulation is of great importance.

Conservationists reply that countries are more likely to mine in Antarctica with regulation than without. They say the Antarctic treaty's lack of rules on mineral exploitation means there is too much financial and political insecurity for countries to risk unapproved mining.

#### Media not allowed

"What financier would provide money for mining on the ice if he was told the miner did not even have a claim to the land?" asked Lena Hagelin, the international political coordinator for Green-

peace's Antarctic campaign.

Conservation groups are concerned about the make-up of the convention and the secrecy of its meetings. No outsiders or members of the media are allowed to attend.

"Diplomats represent a very narrow group of human beings," Wallace said. She maintains energy company representatives at the convention are "industry zealots" and says ASOC had to fight just to get two non-governmental organisation representatives at the meeting.

She fears the convention is being concluded too quickly and with insufficient public input. She believes it is deliberately being pushed through before "the disastrous ecological effect" of large-scale activity on the ice is widely understood.

She added that possible loopholes could result from a rushed resolution and advantage would be taken of these by unscrupulous miners.

Wallace says a problem for Antarctic pressure groups is that most people see Antarctica as far away with little real significance to their lives.

"Unfortunately there are no human constituents down there and penguins can't enter the debate," she said.

## AIDS: African monkey theory based on scientists' mistake

By R.C. Sabatier

IN 1985 and 1986, scientists announced the discovery of two new AIDS-like viruses, one in African green monkeys and another in human blood from West Africa. This became the main evidence for the theory that the AIDS virus originated in Africa. Now, two of the principal scientists involved say their results were based on a laboratory mistake. Their two "new" viruses never existed.

Phyllis Kanki and Max Essex, of the Harvard School of Public Health in Boston, USA, led the teams that in 1985 and 1986 announced the discovery of two new AIDS-like viruses, one in African green monkeys, and another in West African people. They thought they might have uncovered the origin of the AIDS virus.

Their "discoveries" became the central evidence in the theory that the virus which causes AIDS was descended from a virus in

wild African monkeys, perhaps via an intermediate virus among West African people.

Kanki and Essex have now acknowledged (in a recent issue of the British science journal Nature) that their discoveries were a case of mistaken identity. The two viruses which they named do not exist — and never did.

How did the mistake occur? Five years ago, a Californian research centre reported that captive macaques and rhesus monkeys had since 1965 suffered occasional outbreaks of a disease resembling human AIDS. Later, different scientists isolated a virus from sick macaques. It was found to be similar to the HIV virus which causes AIDS in humans — a result that still stands.

Where could the macaques, imported from Asia, have picked up their infection? Was it a disease of wild macaques? Apparently not, since scientists couldn't find any AIDS-like virus in wild macaques.

Could the captive macaques

have been infected in the laboratory by monkeys of another species? This seemed possible. African green monkeys often shared cages with macaques in U.S. research centres. Believing that AIDS was widespread in parts of Africa, Kanki and Essex decided to look for a common viral ancestor of both the macaque virus and the AIDS virus among wild African green monkeys.

Kanki and Essex tested blood samples from wild-caught African green monkeys and, they reported, found a new virus which they named STLV-3agm. Working with French and Senegalese colleagues, they also thought they had found a similar virus, which they called HTLV-4, in blood samples taken from healthy West African people.

Kanki and Essex's work suggested that STLV-3agm, their new green monkey virus, might have "crossed over" from monkeys into human beings, evolving into HTLV-4, which appeared not to cause any illness. They

theorised that HTLV-4 might then have evolved further within humans into the HIV virus, which causes AIDS.

If the AIDS virus really did evolve this way, virologists would expect genetic changes to have occurred in the viruses as they moved from one species to the next, making each virus different from — though related to — the others. But when another group of Harvard researchers compared the genetic structures of the two "new" viruses, STLV-3agm and HTLV-4, they found them 99 per cent identical.

More surprisingly, the two "new" viruses were all but indistinguishable from the original macaque virus. In April 1987 the second Harvard group said it was startling to see such similarity between three viruses infecting three different species of animal. As a result, a cloud of suspicion descended on the Kanki and Essex results.

One possible explanation was contamination. Had the labora-

tory samples from green monkeys, and those from West Africans, become contaminated with the bug which triggered the search in the first place — the macaque virus? This sort of contamination is not unusual. Virologists regularly exercise elaborate laboratory care to avoid it.

So Kanki and Essex rechecked their work, and finally decided that contamination had occurred. It is to their credit that they have now openly acknowledged this. Their admission will be welcomed

by many African scientists who, from the first publication of the green monkey theory in 1985, have maintained that the evidence linking green monkeys with the AIDS virus was too weak to justify the conclusion that AIDS came from Africa.

The origin of the HIV virus has become one of the hottest scientific questions of the 1980s. Many scientists still believe that the AIDS virus could have descended from a bug of monkeys or

another primate species — and indeed there remains a tangible link between the AIDS virus and an AIDS-like monkey virus in the form of the macaque bug.

But the green monkey hypothesis went further. It suggested that the macaque virus had been introduced into the U.S. from somewhere else, probably by green monkeys imported from Africa. Kanki and Essex's laboratory error makes this particular hypothesis less credible.

It is widely considered in Africa that the green monkey theory became popular at least partly because Westerners wanted to "blame" Africans for starting the AIDS epidemic. But there is more research in the wings which could yet keep the green monkey theory alive. Independently of Kanki and Essex, at least three other groups of scientists, one in Japan and two in the U.S., say that they have isolated an AIDS-like virus from wild and captive African green monkeys — Panos feature.

## 'No compromise over land'

(Continued from page 1)

the Arab Nation from aggression. The King recalled that Jordan had faced numerous challenges and was subjected to various economic pressures in the past but had firmly withstood all these difficulties.

Jordan and the Jordanian people will constitute a strong fortress in the face of all hostile elements and all forms of aggression, the King said.

The King voiced deep pride in the Palestinian uprising in the occupied West Bank and Gaza and said Jordan would continue to extend help and support for the Palestinians.

Jordan will continue to seek an international peace conference to help the Palestinian people regain their land and their rights and is ready to attend this conference independently or in a joint Jordanian-Palestinian delegation, the King said.

Jordan has noted that the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) had approached an Arab country for forming a joint delegation to the conference and this means that the PLO is willing to attend jointly with other Arab delegations, the King said.

The Great Arab Revolt, which broke out at the turn of the century, came to liberate and unify the Arab people everywhere and the late Al Hussein Ibn Ali defended Arab rights in Palestine and was banished and exposed to all forms of hardships because of his noble stand, King Hussein said.

He said King Abdullah led the Armed Forces to defend the Arab land and was able to save the West Bank and the Arab city of Jerusalem from Israeli occupation.

Israel, King Hussein said, does not realise that force cannot achieve peace despite having witnessed the result through 30 years of occupying Arab land in Palestine and in its recurrent invasions of Lebanon. Israel tends to ignore justice which is instrumental for any permanent and honourable peace, the King said.

The King reviewed domestic achievements and said the Armed Forces which numbered 6,500 thirty-five years ago now number 120,000. He said Jordan considers any aggression on any Arab land as directed against Jordan and for this reason it continues to support Iraq, which is defending the Arab Order, and protecting the Arabian Peninsula and the Arab countries at large from Iranian attempts to build a Persian empire at Arab expense.

## Strike paralyses occupied lands

(Continued from page 1)

open their stores. In Hebron, a bus was set on fire and destroyed Wednesday morning when it came to take workers to their jobs despite the general strike. No one was hurt.

A large procession was held in the village of Bani Naim where troops shot dead two Palestinians Tuesday, villagers said. The village was declared a closed military area and soldiers looked on but did not interfere in the march.

Meanwhile, Israeli police said they were considering charging a Palestinian woman with causing the death of an Israeli girl who was accidentally shot by an Israeli settler.

An official army report said last week Jewish settler Tirza Porat, 15, was accidentally shot

"We feel we are not giving enough to Iraq to help it fend off the danger but we are optimistic and encouraged that victory will be on the Arab side," the King said.

The King referred to the question of national unity and said:

"We often hear the term 'national forces' and 'national elements' but there is no group within the united Jordanian family which has the right to claim to be a national force independent from the rest of the Jordanian family. National force means a national and collective resistance against the colonialist and the foreign occupier of our land. All our people and our brothers in the occupied territories form a national force confronting the colonialist invasion."

"Here, this country is the property of all citizens and therefore all of us are equal in rights and responsibilities."

"We inherited from our grandfathers and the principles of the Great Arab Revolt and strive to achieve its goals. Every Arab citizen is part of the national force regardless of his origin homeland."

"Every Jordanian citizen has rights and responsibilities like any other member of the Jordanian family. This should be the basis for our national unity so as to prevent any enemy attempts to draw a wedge amongst us or achieve his evil goals."

"All citizens, whether they are from the East or the West Bank, have equal rights here and we will continue to support the Palestinians with all our might to enable them to regain their rights and their land sooner or later."

"We have to be alert and ready for confronting Israel's conspiracies and any force that supports Israel."

"We will leave no stone unturned in the search for a just and honourable peace, but we will not compromise or bargain over any inch of Arab land."

"Neither I as a Hashemite nor any member of my family will ever betray the trust, no matter how mighty the Israeli enemy is."

"Despite Israel's military and nuclear power and regardless of the type of weapon in Israel's hand, we firmly believe that the land shall return to its lawful owners and there can be no alternative to an international conference for achieving peace based on U.N. Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338."

"Arab Jerusalem should return to Arab sovereignty and the Palestine problem should be solved in all its aspects and Arab rights and lands should be returned so that a lasting peace can be achieved."

The Ifar was attended by Prime Minister Zaid Rida, Royal Court Chief Marwan Al Qasbi, Court Minister Adnan Abu Odah, Armed Forces Commander-in-Chief Field Marshal Sharif Zaid Ibn Shaker, Chief Chamberlain Prince Ra'd Ibn Zaid, Cabinet members and other officials.

## Hassan II, U.N. chief hold private talks

RABAT (R) — King Hassan of Morocco and United Nations Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar had an hour-long private talk Tuesday night on the 12-year-old Western Sahara conflict, the U.N. chief's spokesman said Wednesday.

Spokesman Francois Giuliani said Perez de Cuellar would now contact the Algerian-backed Polisario guerrillas fighting Morocco for independence of the former Spanish territory.

Morocco has severed ties with Algeria and quit the Organisation of African Unity (OAU) because it admitted Polisario's self-styled Saharan Arab Democratic Republic as a member in 1984.

The U.N. and the OAU are trying to resolve the issue through a referendum. A U.N. technical mission visited the area last November to gather data for arranging a ceasefire and a referendum.

Giuliani said no aides were present at the talks, which followed an iftar at the royal palace.

It was Perez de Cuellar's second round of discussions with the king since he arrived Monday to press for a peaceful settlement of the conflict.

The spokesman did not say when Perez de Cuellar would confer with Polisario, but the U.N. chief had said earlier that he hoped to meet Algerian, Mauritania and Polisario leaders during an OAU summit in Addis Ababa later this month.

When Spain ceded the Western Sahara in 1975 it was divided between Mauritania and Morocco.

Perez de Cuellar was scheduled to visit Mauritania and Algeria after Morocco but announced Monday that because of unspecified problems in New York he was cutting short his tour in order to be back at U.N. headquarters Thursday.

Giuliani said Perez de Cuellar, who was spending the day inspecting U.N. offices in Rabat, was to leave for New York via Paris Wednesday afternoon.

## France expels former hostage intermediary

PARIS (AP) — Omran Adham, a Syrian businessman who has undertaken several mediation missions for the release of French hostages in Lebanon, was expelled from France Tuesday night, Arab diplomatic and French government sources said.

They said the Interior Ministry used a special administrative procedure, "absolute urgency," to expel Adham, who is said to be close to Syrian President Hafez Al Assad.

The procedure means judicial approval is not necessary. It is also used to expel Basque separatists to Spain.

The expulsion order was signed by Interior Minister Charles Pas-

qua and Adham left Tuesday night by plane for another European capital, the sources said.

The ministry declined to comment.

Adham has a Syrian diplomatic passport but is not on the official diplomatic list issued by the Foreign Ministry. He has resided in Paris for 11 years and his wife and four children are French.

The sources, who spoke on condition of anonymity, said Pasqua, who is close to Premier Jacques Chirac, was announced by Adham's persistent statements to the media about an imminent release of the three hostages just before the first round of the presidential elections April 24.

## New U.S. naval protection policy now in effect in Gulf

WASHINGTON (Agencies) — The new U.S. policy of extending naval protection to neutral ships in the Gulf has been formally implemented, the Defence Department said Tuesday.

Under the new policy announced last Friday, U.S. warships in the Gulf may come to the aid of any neutral, friendly commercial ship not serving ports in Iran or Iraq if the ship comes under attack in international waters.

Defence Secretary Frank Carlucci said last Friday the new policy would be implemented "once we have informed those free world, non-belligerent countries that maintain shipping interests in the Gulf."

Dan Howard, the Pentagon's chief spokesman, said "The appropriate people have been notified" and the new policy was now "in effect."

Howard said the policy applied equally to both Iran and Iraq when it came to breaking up attacks on merchant ships.

"If it meets the criteria... then the rules are the same for whoever the attacker might be," Howard said.

The spokesman noted, however, the United States did not expect any confrontations with Iraqi forces because that country has limited its attacks to ships steaming inside certain declared exclusion or war zones.

"The pattern is pretty clear," said Howard. "The exceptions, the attacks have been for the most part by Iran outside the exclusion zone."

"We are prepared, under certain circumstances, to offer assistance to... non-belligerent vessels serving neutral ports that are attacked by anyone outside the exclusion zones."

The Pentagon said most of what it estimated were 201 attacks by Iran since early 1986

had been outside the zone.

It estimated that 171 shipping attacks were made by Iraq during that period and that all but three of them were believed to have occurred inside the Iranian war exclusion zone on the eastern edge of the Gulf.

In a related development, the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, Admiral William J. Crowe, said Tuesday that Iran remains a dangerous foe in the Gulf despite heavy losses in battles with the U.S. navy two weeks ago.

"I believe the Iranians would clearly like to damage us, to hurt us, to humiliate us if they could," Crowe said during a surprise visit to the Gulf.

"I think terrorism is one of the ways that they might try to do it. It's a very serious threat," he said aboard the USS Coronado.

Crowe presided at an awards ceremony on the sun-baked afterdeck of the 15,000-ton Coronado.

He plans to visit at least three of the 28 other U.S. warships in the area, including the mine-damaged 3,700-ton guided missile frigate Samuel B. Roberts, on his two-day tour.

Iran has warned the United States not to mount new military actions in the Gulf and has threatened reprisals from anywhere in the world.

## U.S. alert

The State Department has warned American diplomats and businesses around the world Tuesday to guard against terrorist retaliation for U.S. military action against Iran in the Gulf.

"The government of Iran has practised terrorism for the past nine years," spokesman Charles E.

Redman said. "Senior Iranian officials in recent weeks have threatened terrorist acts in retaliation for U.S. actions in the Gulf."

"The U.S. takes all such threats seriously and has advised posts to take appropriate precautions," Redman said.

A warning was sent last Wednesday to U.S. diplomatic missions, military installations and American companies.

State Department officials, speaking on condition of anonymity, quoted the warning as

saying: "The U.S. government possesses information which leads it to believe that the government of Iran will authorise terrorist attacks against U.S. targets in the very near future. We further believe that these attacks will be deliberately designed to cause U.S. fatalities and or destruction to U.S. facilities."

It said the Middle East, South-East Asia and Europe were the most likely areas for attack. "Although no area can be completely precluded as an area of operation."

## Israel accepts mediation on Taba, not U.S. formula

TEL AVIV (R) — Israeli leaders agreed Wednesday to empower U.S. envoy Abraham Sofaer to mediate between Israel and Egypt over their Taba border dispute but without accepting his proposal, Israeli officials said.

Sofaer, the U.S. State Department's legal adviser, has proposed returning the disputed Red Sea beachfront to Egyptian sovereignty but allowing the Israelis free access and day-to-day management of the resort, diplomats said.

Officials said Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir, Foreign Minister Shimon Peres and Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin agreed that Sofaer should continue his effort to settle the dispute amicably before international arbitrators render their verdict on the future of the 700-metre strip.

Sofaer was on his way to Cairo to seek Egyptian agreement to mediation, they said.

If both sides give the green light for another U.S. diplomatic effort, Israel and Egypt must ask the three-man international arbitration panel before May 10

to postpone deliberation of its verdict.

Diplomats said a clear-cut victory for either side under the arbitration could be a serious setback for Israel's shaky relations with Egypt.

Israel retained Taba when it withdrew from the rest of the Sinai Peninsula under the 1979 treaty with Egypt. It claims that on older maps, the area was part of Palestine and should now belong to Israel.

The arbitrators were due to render their verdict by July 15 at the latest but diplomats had said it could be issued this month unless the parties request a delay.

A senior Egyptian official said in Cairo Tuesday that Egypt would accept no compromise that gave it less than "full and absolute sovereignty" over Taba.

Aides to Shamir say he opposes Sofaer's proposal in its current form, since it would give Egypt not only sovereignty but also full control over the area.

Foreign ministry officials have said Peres regards the Sofaer proposal as a workable outline

## Egypt — historical refuge turns transit stop

By Nejla Sammakia  
The Associated Press

CAIRO — Since Biblical times, the oppressed have looked to Egypt for safe haven. Today's refugees, however, simply pass through heading for greener pastures.

Many, denied refugee status under an internationally monitored system, go into hiding out of fear they will be sent home. Mahmoud Abbas, in charge of refugee affairs at the Foreign Ministry, said some turn to crime to support themselves.

Egypt is what the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) calls a "transit country." Cairo representatives of the UNHCR decide whether applicants for asylum qualify as refugees under the 1951 Geneva Convention. Egypt allows those who do to stay until they are provided permanent homes in the United States, Canada, Australia or elsewhere.

"Cairo is huge, and there is a constant flow of foreigners," said Michel Gaude, an officer at the UNHCR office. "We receive about 10 a week... mainly Ethiopian."

"Sometimes young people come here hoping to reestablish in Canada or Australia and invent stories of persecution. We try to reach the truth and say no only when we're absolutely sure."

Still, official figures show that only 10-20 per cent of asylum seekers obtained refugee status from the UNHCR and Egypt last year. They joined about 1,000 already awaiting resettlement. The Foreign Ministry's Abbas estimated that 30,000 are in the country illegally after they were denied refugee status.

In Biblical times, Joseph and Mary brought the

infant Jesus Christ to Egypt after King Herod ordered the slaughter of newborn males in the Jerusalem area.

In this century prominent exiles found refuge in Egypt, including the late Shah Mohammad Reza Pahlavi of Iran in 1980 and ousted Sudanese President Jaafar Numeiri in 1985. The Shah died and was buried in Cairo.

While such people come as guests of the government, less well-placed refugees are handled according to reservations to the refugees convention that Egypt laid down when it signed in 1980.

In general, the reservations deny refugees free education and rationed, heavily subsidised food, restricted to Egypt's constantly growing population of 54 million.

Many of the dispossessed come to escape civil war and persecution at home, mainly Ethiopia, Chad and other sub-Saharan countries. They sneak across the 500-kilometre frontier with Sudan to the south or stow away aboard ships, jumping ship at ports in the Red Sea or the Suez Canal.

Abdul Mawla Al Solh, the UNHCR's Cairo delegate, said most refugee seekers were African, but others come from "everywhere except the United States and Western Europe." And with dim prospects for peace and plenty in sub-Saharan Africa, the influx of desperate Ethiopians, Chadians, Ugandans, Zairians and others can be expected to continue.

Refugee status is granted to people fleeing political or religious persecution, but not merely economic hardships.

"The most difficult moment is when I know my decision will immediately affect (an applicant's)

fate," said the UNHCR's Gaude. "For example, if I am called to the airport I know he might be repatriated (if denied refugee status). If I have a doubt, I decide to keep him."

## Security concerns

The Foreign Ministry's Abbas said the government's main problem is not with the official refugees but with aliens living illegally in Egypt. "Now there are almost 30,000 who have gone underground," he said. "We are after them. They commit crimes, steal, cheat."

"If they are arrested, then we try to find another transit country. Although they have harmed us, we don't send them back to their country of origin."

A senior official of the Interior Ministry, which is responsible for public order, said, however, that the aliens do not pose any threat to security through crime. He said he could not give an estimate of the number of illegal aliens.

St. Andrew's United Church, an Anglican church in central Cairo, is a favourite gathering place for Ethiopians, some of them accepted as refugees and others waiting for clearance. They sit in the church's courtyard, sunning themselves or reading mystery novels, doing odd jobs or playing football in the recreation room.

## Tough life

And they talk of life at home under what they describe as a harsh regime in Addis Ababa, which jails dissenters for long periods and forces them into battle against guerrillas in the northern part of the country.

## Resistance battles Israelis

(Continued from page 1)

helicopter gunships strafed the area with heavy machineguns and launched missiles.

They said black smoke billowed amid the deafening thunder of artillery. Electricity and telephone cables and debris from wrecked houses blocked the roads and streets were deserted except for militiamen.

"We were fighting in Maidoun. Our morale is very high. We are receiving reinforcements," said Hizbollah fighter Ali Harakeh at Mashghara.

Another fighter said: "We will continue to fight until the last drop of our blood. Even if we all have to die, the Israelis will not be allowed to stay here."

Amal said three of its men were killed and two wounded while Hizbollah said two fighters were wounded. Both said the number of casualties could be higher but were difficult to determine while battles continued.

Israeli Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin said the operation should end within two days. Rabin at one point supervised the advance from a hilltop near Maidoun.

"It will not drag on and I am sure that within 48 hours we will be able to bring it to a conclusion and to bring our forces back to the bases from which they set out," Rabin said.

Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir said the push would not lead to a prolonged entanglement in Lebanon or provoke a confrontation with Syria.

Speaking in the north Galilee town of Beit Shean, Shamir said Israel did not plan to expand its

"security zone" in southern Lebanon. "I can't predict what the Syrians will do but I think there is no reason for them to get involved," Rabin told Israeli Television.

The operation is the most expensive since Feb. 17, 1986, when Israel poured over 1,000 troops and dozens of tanks into southern Lebanon to search for two soldiers captured by Lebanese resistance. The soldiers were never found.

Security sources in South Lebanon said Israel dispatched two mechanised battalions into the area Tuesday night, doubling the size of their invading force to about 2,500 troops.

At noon (1000 GMT) Wednesday, the Israelis withdrew from the villages of 'Ain Ata, Memis, Kfeer, Khalwat and Ain Zeta after "completing the search," a police spokesman said.

He said they rounded up 12 men in the five villages. The Israelis also "seized large quantities of weapons and ammunition," the spokesman said.

A Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) leader has denied that the movement's leadership plans to return to Lebanon following a reconciliation with Syria, the Al Watan daily reported Wednesday.

"What has been said about our return to Lebanon is incorrect simply because we are already in Lebanon," it quoted Salah Khalaf, a senior aide to PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat, as saying in an interview.



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جوليا فيليبس

# Need for interest rate liberalisation oscillates among bankers in Jordan

By Salameh Ne'matt  
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — A consensus emerged at a seminar Wednesday over the need to introduce new flexibility to interest rates in the Jordanian financial system despite some reservations by Central Bank of Jordan (CBJ) officials and private bankers.

The seminar on "interest rate liberalisation," co-sponsored by the CBJ and the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), heard several views on the pros and cons of deregulation and on calls for structural adjustments in the Kingdom's financial body to accompany steps towards more liberalisation tailored for the country's needs.

## Maher Shukri

CBJ Deputy Governor Maher Shukri said the central bank policy is to gradually introduce more flexibility in interest rates, stressing the need for new financial instruments to be adopted by the financial community.

"We care for stability in the economy that is ensured by a sound banking system," Shukri told the seminar. He discussed the importance of reconsidering the prices of banking services and guaranteeing banks' profitability as a basis for a sound financial system.

## David Willey

Dr. David Willey, an advisor with the U.S. Morgan Stanley International Inc. said that economic liberalisation introduced all over the world affected changes on the banking profession and forced banks to "scurry around and become more entrepreneurial."

Dismissing arguments against deregulation, Willey said liberalisation "does not mean a loss in profitability for banks" as a result of a possible rise in interest rates, but that such a move would only force banks to improve management and efficiency or lose out to market forces.

He warned that a continued ceiling on interest rates in Jordan could lead to a capital outflow and that liberalisation of interest rates had to apply on lending as well as deposits if the process is going to be effective in boosting economic activity.

Furthermore, Willey said that free interest rates "should not be associated with higher rates."

## Michel Marto

Bank of Jordan General Manager Michel Marto agreed with Willey that control of interest rates adversely affected efficiency but pointed out that "U.S. and Jordanian economies are different," and that Jordan "does not have the U.S. ability to attract (foreign) funds."

Referring to CBJ's licensing of foreign banks in Jordan, Marto argued that "the fact that Jordan is overbanked did not add much to either banking techniques nor did it increase efficiency and improve competition."

He said the CBJ-imposed ceiling on deposit and lending rates have made investment in Jordan more difficult.

Commenting on Willey's paper, Marto said that in Jordan's case, monetary policy "has to be very innovative to get the country out of the present slowdown."

He said that one advantage Jordan had was that CBJ "never forced banks to allocate a percentage of their credit to certain sectors" which, he added, "causes distortions."

## Umayya Touqan

CBJ's Dr. Umayya Touqan spoke against deregulation and questioned the need for further liberalisation.

He said that according to studies on Jordan's financial system, higher interest rates in the Kingdom did not affect currency exchange rates as is the case in the United States.

He said he did not consider Jordanian interest rates as over-regulated and that there was enough room for economic activity.

## Munther Fahoum

Munther Fahoum, a senior Arab Bank official was against deregulation but backed calls for

more flexibility and adjustments in the present financial system.

He speculated that decontrolling interest rates could cause these rates to shoot up to over 15 per cent on deposits and over 17 per cent on loans.

Such a development, he predicted, would sink financial companies into the red and cause depression.

He said that high rates on deposits "would keep the money in banks" and subsequently aggravate the problem on unemployment with the decline in investments.

## Fahed Fanek

Prominent economist Fahed Fanek disagreed with Fahoum's analysis saying the latter's arguments were based on a static situation and that market forces were capable of readjusting and reshaping the whole system.

"We feel quite comfortable with the present system, with some adjustments and more flexibility," he added.

## Jawad Hadid

Also speaking at the seminar, Arab Jordan Investment Bank Deputy General Manager Jawad Hadid said that liberalising interest rates must be accompanied by a comprehensive restructuring of the whole financial system in Jordan.

He argued that in the Jordanian case, "there are different influences on our investment psychology."

"If you encourage savings it does not mean these savings will go for investments," he said. "We have to address all the present problems as a package."

## Khalil Salem

Arab Financial Corporation Chairman Khalil Salem advocated that before any changes are done on the financial system, there is a need to find out "to

what extent are our investments sensitive to interest rates and whether there is a real correlation between them."

"We have to know first to what extent the CBJ rate is the pivot around which everything else revolves," he said.

Dr. Salem, a former finance minister and former central bank governor, was in favour of innovations but at the same time, he warned: "We should not think that what is good for the Philippines and the United States should work for Jordan. Let us first find out the weaknesses in our system."

## Basil Jardaneh

Jordan Investment and Finance Corporation Managing Director Basil Jardaneh said it was preferable in Jordan to leave it to the market forces to determine an interest rate structure that will create a balance between financial variables.

Regarding the foreign exchange market, Jardaneh said the monetary authority in Jordan is following a flexible policy with regard to determining the value of the Jordan dinar.

"Pursuing such a policy under rigid structure of interest rates will subject the Jordan dinar to substantial fluctuations which would lead savers to hedge against its depreciation by buying foreign currency and transferring their savings abroad."

Jardaneh suggested that "it is appropriate to support this policy by a flexible interest rate structure in order to allow the market to determine at what return a saver in Jordan will continue to hold the Jordan dinar without a need for hedging."

"Unless such a policy is being pursued," he warned, "it could be argued that the authorities in Jordan are creating a serious situation that encourages capital flight and limits capital inflow."

## Xerox introduces new copiers

NEW YORK (AP) — Xerox Corp. marked the 50th anniversary year of plain-paper copying Tuesday with a new line of products that includes its first personal copier, made for Xerox by Japanese rival Sharp Corp.

The members of the 50 series have more features and higher

price tags than members of Xerox's successful 10 series, which helped the company begin to regain market share.

Xerox had long resisted introducing a personal copier, saying it could not justify the investment necessary to compete with Japanese companies.

## Egyptian minister begins visit to Jordan tomorrow

AMMAN (J.T.) — Egyptian International Cooperation Minister Maurice Makramallah is due here on Friday to take part in a general assembly meeting of the Jordanian-Egyptian Investment Company.

The meeting is expected to endorse the company's statutes and the steps taken by the company's board of directors since the formation of the company last November.

The Egyptian minister is due to pay a visit to Aqaba, where he

will inspect sites for launching a fishing company project, and the Disi district in southern Jordan to inspect a location where preparatory work is underway for establishing a joint company for the production of lean meat and fodder.

Makramallah and Jordan's minister of industry, trade and supply will co-chair the general assembly meeting Sunday, according to a report in the Al Ra'i Arabic newspaper.

## Reserves for bad debts cut Bank of Jordan profit

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Bank of Jordan last year realised overall profits estimated at JD 1,407,761 against JD 2,153,034 in the previous year. The decline in profits was due to bad debts, estimated at JD 189,000, and reserve of JD 1,690,958 to cover any doubtful bad debts, according to Al Dus-

tour Arabic daily.

It said that the bank's board of directors has recommended that dividends at the rate of 10 per cent be distributed to the shareholders.

This, it said, will amount to a total of JD 525,000.

## Minister fixes charges for transporting goods

AMMAN (Petra) — A new set of tariffs for transporting refrigerated goods from Aqaba to Kuwait by land has been fixed by Transport and Telecommunications Minister Khaled Al Haj Hassan.

He said that up to JD 450 will be charged for the transportation of 20 tonnes of refrigerated goods from Aqaba port to Kuwait.

If the load exceeds 20 tonnes then JD 22.5 will be charged for every additional tonne, the minister said.

Trucks carrying goods from the port city to Kuwait through Baghdad will charge JD 490 for each trip if they carry up to 20 tonnes but if the load exceeds the 20 tonne limit, JD 25.5 will be charged for every additional tonne, the minister added.

The minister said that the tariff does not cover any expenses incurred by going through border posts. These expenses will be charged to the owner of the goods or his agent.

## Pan-Arab company to hold shareholders' meeting May 23

AMMAN (Petra) — The general assembly of the Amman based Arab Federation of Land Transport is due to convene here May 23, to discuss the 1987 annual report by the federation's board of directors and a work plan for the current year.

Also to be discussed is the budget and final accounts of the federation's financial activities in the past year.

The assembly will elect a new

board to take charge of the federation's affairs in the coming four years.

The federation comprises 50 members representing 10 Arab countries: Jordan, Iraq, Kuwait, North Yemen, Saudi Arabia, Syria, Lebanon, Tunisia, Libya and Egypt.

The Amman meeting will be the ninth by federation's general assembly.

## Warsaw warns strikers

WARSAW, Poland (AP) — The government said Tuesday that wage demands arising from a wave of strikes since April 25 threaten to upset plans to reform Poland's ailing economy, and if the strikers win, everyone will lose.

"We have waited very long for this chance and it is important that it not be wasted," government spokesman Jerzy Urban told reporters at a news conference, echoing an oft-repeated theme in the national media.

At least four strikes and several minor work stoppages have broken out in Poland, and virtually every sector of the public is clamoring for high pay to counter price increases of 42 per cent in the first quarter.

It is a repetition of a familiar pattern in Polish postwar history, with workers automatically demanding higher pay in response to higher prices.

But this time, the heightening labour unrest has led to increasingly desperate appeals for reason on the part of the authorities, who say it is evident the old way was ineffective.

The impoverish 1 state of the economy is clear.

Horses instead of tractors plow fields, office buildings stand un-

finished for years for lack of funds, ordinary household items such as toilet paper are in chronic short supply, and annual incomes average the equivalent of \$1,080.

In addition, the country is saddled with a \$39 billion foreign debt, the highest in the Eastern Bloc. The debt consumes most of its meager hard currency earnings.

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Special JETT buses to Jerash leave daily from Abdali JETT station at 6 p.m. sharp and back to Amman after show.

## Oil prices may tumble to \$10 a barrel

JAKARTA (R) — OPEC is divided over how much to cut output to prop up world oil prices, with one group fearing a

slump back to \$10 a barrel unless strong production cuts are made, an authoritative OPEC source said Wednesday.

"Countries like Iran, Algeria, Venezuela and Libya consider if there are no production cuts by OPEC and non-OPEC producers, oil prices may go down to \$10 barrel," said the source, who spoke to Indonesian reporters on condition he was not identified.

Oil prices crashed to less than \$10 a barrel in 1986 but recovered through joint action by the 13-member Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) which set a reference price of \$18.

New downward pressure on prices in 1988 brought an offer from some non-OPEC producers to join OPEC in curbing exports. But a meeting of the group in Vienna last week failed to agree on OPEC action in response to the offer.

Referring to last week's OPEC meeting, the source said there were basically three camps within the group, with differing views about how to respond to the non-OPEC offer.

"Another group, comprising

Saudi Arabia, Iraq, Qatar, Kuwait and the United Arab Emirates, think that the situation will not be that bad," he stated.

"They think at present there is a balance between oil supply and demand and predict that there will be an increase in demand in the third and fourth quarters (of 1988) due to the winter season, and prices will not go down even though OPEC members have not reached agreement in their meeting (last week)."

"The third group, including Indonesia and Nigeria, estimate the current oil supply in the world market at around 64 days and it is not too great to affect prices. We believe prices, when they do go down, will only decline slightly," the source added.

"These are the differences among members. The first group suggested that production cuts (among OPEC members) of between 600,000 and one million barrels per day are needed to prevent prices from falling to \$10 a barrel."

"But Saudi Arabia and the Gulf countries did not want to lower their production by so much," he added.

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## JORDAN PETROLEUM REFINERY COMPANY LTD., AMMAN - JORDAN TENDERERS INVITATION FOR PREQUALIFICATION AND BIDDING

Jordan Petroleum Refinery Co. Ltd., announces tender invitation No. 5/88 for Aqaba Tanks and Facilities Revamp Project which shall include building of oil products storage tanks and accompanying facilities including all civil, mechanical and electrical works related to the new installations.

Contractors who have experience in the same field and are qualified financially and technically and who wish to participate in the above tender are invited to submit their prequalification documents not later than 12:00 p.m. on 13/6/1988.

- Prequalification documents should include the following:
1. Financial capability of the contractor, financial references are to be provided.
  2. Technical capability of the contractor including details of experience and background of personnel, specifications of available equipment, etc.
  3. Detailed documents showing similar projects executed by the contractor, full names and addresses of firms and details of projects including contract cost, and completion periods. Results of prequalification shall be announced and advised to participants as soon as they become available.

Eligible contractors may obtain tender documents from the company's head office at First Circle - Jabal Amman against non-refundable JD (100) per set not later than 20/6/1988.

Offers should be submitted by qualified contractors to the company's head office not later than 12:00 p.m. on Tuesday 16/8/1988.

Cinema **CONCORD** Tel: 677420

**SOUL MAN**

Performances: 3:30, 5:15, 8:45, 10:45

Cinema **RAINBOW** Tel: 625159

**The Sailor Who Fell From Grace With the Sea**

Performances: 3:30, 6:30, 8:30

Cinema **NIJOUM CINEMA** «Formerly Opera» Tel: 675573

**3 DAYS OF THE CONDOR**

Performances: 3:30, 5:15, 8:45, 10:45

Cinema **PLAZA** Tel: 677420

**TERMINATOR**

Performances: 3:30, 5:15, 8:45, 10:45

## AMMAN FINANCIAL MARKET

Activity on the Amman Financial Market for May 4, 1988.

|                                    | Number | Volume    | Contracts |
|------------------------------------|--------|-----------|-----------|
| <b>Regular market:</b>             | 138144 | JD 152086 | 281       |
| <b>Top three companies:</b>        |        |           |           |
| National Steel Industries          | 6350   | JD 17899  | 16        |
| Universal Chemical Industries      | 12000  | JD 18000  | 32        |
| Jordan Sulpho Chemicals            | 6795   | JD 16177  | 24        |
| <b>Parallel market:</b>            | 50334  | JD 26048  | —         |
| <b>Development bonds:</b>          | 409    | 4262      | —         |
| <b>Treasury bills &amp; bonds:</b> | —      | —         | —         |
| <b>Other debentures:</b>           | —      | —         | —         |

## LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midday on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets Wednesday.

|                   |               |                  |
|-------------------|---------------|------------------|
| One Sterling      | 1.8635/45     | U.S. dollar      |
| One U.S. dollar   | 1.2380/90     | Canadian dollar  |
|                   | 1.6805/10     | Deutsche marks   |
|                   | 1.8845/50     | Dutch guilders   |
|                   | 1.4010/20     | Swiss francs     |
|                   | 35.13/16      | Belgian francs   |
|                   | 5.7100/10     | French francs    |
|                   | 1250/1251     | Italian lire     |
|                   | 125.00/10     | Japanese yen     |
|                   | 5.8830/80     | Swedish crowns   |
|                   | 6.1730/80     | Norwegian crowns |
|                   | 6.4680/4730   | Danish crowns    |
| One ounce of gold | 442.00/442.50 | U.S. dollars     |

## WORLD STOCK MARKETS

SYDNEY — The market closed easier, forced down mainly by heavy selling pressure on resources stocks because of a fall in the international gold price and the strong Australian dollar. The All-Ordinaries Index fell 1.8 to 1,443.2.

TOKYO — Market closed for holiday, reopens May 6.

HONG KONG — Prices closed sharply higher, led by property shares. The Hang Seng Index rose 38.53 to end at 2,641.13, the day's high.

SINGAPORE — Prices closed marginally higher for the fifth day on selected buying support and some bargain-hunting in moderate trading. The Straits Times Industrial Index rose 3.79 to 972.68.

BOMBAY — Share prices closed higher in moderate dealings after the exchange authorities further relaxed curbs on forward trading.

FRANKFURT — Prices ended higher and near the session's best levels, boosted by favourable company results, a firmer dollar and Tuesday's higher Wall Street close. The Commerzbank Index, calculated at mid-session, rose 9.1 to 1,355.3.

ZURICH — Prices edged higher in dull trading, led by participation certificates and bearer shares. Registered shares, which can only be bought by Swiss, declined slightly. The Swiss Index rose 1.4 to 821.4.

PARIS — Shares ended firmer in moderate trading, with bid speculation on several blue chip stocks boosting buying.

LONDON — Share prices fell in late trading, taking the FTSE 100 share index below the 1,800 level after Wall Street showed a softer tendency. At 1508 GMT the index was down 12 at 1,794.6.

NEW YORK — Stocks were lower in morning trading, with blue chips moving in a tight band. The Dow Jones industrial average was down 12 at 2,046.

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The Housing Bank Centre - Tel. 672725  
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**Jordan Times**  
Tel: 667171-6

## NBA coach inducted into Basketball Hall of Fame

SPRINGFIELD, Mass. (AP) — The coach of the National Basketball Association (NBA) Washington Bullets, Wes Unseld, was inducted into the Basketball Hall of Fame Tuesday.

"I didn't do anything very pretty. My contributions were in the intangibles," Unseld said. "But they were the type of things that help to lead a team."

Also to be inducted were Clyde Lovellette, who coached in the era of the high-scoring big center at Kansas in the 1950s, Oregon State coach Ralph Miller, the winningest active coach in Division I, and the late Bobby McDermott, who quit his school in his freshman year to become a

pro star in the 1930s.

They bring to 165 the number of individuals inducted in the hall of fame. Four teams have also been inducted.

"It hasn't really sunk in yet," said Unseld, who grabbed a hour's sleep after the Bullets' 114-106 overtime victory over Detroit Monday before heading for Springfield. "The last couple of weeks I haven't been able to give much thought to anything else but making the playoffs and trying to do well."

During his 13-year playing career with the Bullets, Unseld averaged 14 rebounds and 10.8 points over 984 games and led the Bullets to the 1978 NBA title.

Lovellette now teaches teen-agers who have been in trouble with the law in Wabash.

## UEFA limits foreign players in major European competitions

LONDON (AP) — The British soccer clubs are in a state of shock and confusion over radical moves that may bar many of their top stars from European competition.

The sport's European governing body, UEFA, announced Tuesday that beginning in 1991, no club will be allowed to field more than four foreign players in the Champions Cup, Cupwinners Cup or UEFA will hit extremely hard.

"I don't know how the clubs would cope," one British official said.

While the rule theoretically takes effect next season, UEFA adopted a three-year break-in period that allows players already under contract with non-home-land sides to compete.

The new rules coincide with European Community legislation on total freedom of movement by players, also to be introduced in

1991. UEFA president Jacques Georges said the action was intended to "protect the interests of youth" in every country against the trend of overseas transfers, and give more clubs "an equal chance" of success.

Most countries already impose strict import regulations on foreign players. Some, such as The Netherlands where no restrictions apply, also will be affected. But nowhere will the full force be more strongly felt than in Britain, which for generations has enjoyed free movement of players among clubs from England, Scotland, Wales and Ireland.

All these areas have their own national soccer federations and play as separate countries in the World Cup and European Championships.

"Of course British clubs will feel it is particularly harsh," Georges said. "But if you insist on four places in the World Cup

and four votes within UEFA, you cannot expect to be treated as a special case. We are talking about separate soccer federations not countries. Britain has four federations, not one."

English clubs are barred from European competition because of the 1985 Haysel stadium riots. A decision on the future of English clubs will be taken by UEFA at the end of June, following the European Championship finals in East Germany.

If the clubs are re-admitted, however, more restrictions will follow in three years' time. And Liverpool, the most successful team in Europe for a decade, could be one of the clubs hardest hit.

"If you take our past history, UEFA's new eligibility rule would make it impossible for us," said Peter Robinson, secretary of Liverpool, a four-time Champions Cup winner.

## Werder clinches West German Soccer League Championship

BONN (R) — Werder Bremen clinched the West German first division title that eluded them so narrowly last year by beating Eintracht Frankfurt 1-0 Tuesday.

Werder, who led throughout the 1986-87 season only to be pipped by Bayern Munich in the last weeks of the season, won the title this year with three games still to play. With 50 points, they have an unassailable lead.

Karl-Heinz Riedle scoring the only goal of the match 20 minutes before the final whistle in a game marked by Bremen's cautious, defensive play.

National squad member Frank Neubarth slightly soured matters for the new champions by being sent off after elbowing Dieter Schindwein in the face while preventing the Eintracht player from gaining the ball.

Schindwein was taken off on a

stretcher and Neubarth got the red card.

Striker Gunnar Sauer told journalists after the match: "It's a super feeling."

"We've been able to shake off the blues after being knocked out of the UEFA and West German Cup competitions and now we've taken the most important title of the lot."

Bayern remained contenders for second place — a reversal of roles with Werder from last season — after thrashing Bochum 5-0 sparked by Welsh international Mark Hughes.

After a goalless first half, Hughes, on loan for 500,000 marks (\$300,000) from Barcelo-

na, scored three times as Bayern suddenly found their form.

The Welshman collected the first in the 51st minute and scored again 11 minutes later, seconds after a goal from Norbert Eder. Hughes got the fourth for his temporary employers and Hansi Dorfner wrapped up the scoring four minutes from time.

But Bayern still face a challenge for second place from Cologne, currently one point behind them in the league table.

The Rhinelanders appeared to be out of shape Tuesday when Hamburg SV beat them 3-0 in a game marked by sloppy play by Cologne.

They missed numerous chances to score and Hamburg's 21-year-old striker Harald Sporer, in his first division season, had two of the home team's goals. Bruno Labbadia scored the third seconds before the end.

## YOUR DAILY HOROSCOPE

From the Carol Rafter Institute

FORECAST FOR THURSDAY, MAY 5, 1988

### GENERAL TENDENCIES:

Although the morning can be given over to considering new ways of channelling your creative energy, later in the day you should keep your eyes open for a great opportunity to increase your wealth.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) An individual with ideas quite different from your own has some great suggestions, so listen to this person. Get plenty of rest this evening.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) If you change your perspective, you can solve a problem which has been troubling you for some time. Be more understanding of your mate.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) Someone may oppose you in a way which could make you angry, but stay calm, control your temper and you will win in the long run.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to July 21) Don't take any foolish risks this morning, and avoid arguing with a co-worker about something over which you have no control.

LIBRA (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21) Be sure to carry through with any duties or appointments for which you are responsible. You may have to rearrange your schedule to do this.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) Get an early start today, and you can

accomplish a great deal. A family member may be argumentative, but don't lose your temper.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) A troubling situation at home will require your full attention. Be sure to send out important correspondence, and drive with great care today.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) Instead of trying to muddle through on guesswork, get the information you need to handle an important new project properly.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) You may feel confused this morning, so don't try to make any important decisions. Pay a visit to an old friend this evening.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) Don't dwell on your past mistakes; start out with a clean slate and get much accomplished today. Be more affectionate to your mate.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) Instead of seeking a friend for help, try to rely more on your own abilities. Be slow and careful in all of your dealings today.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) Avoid an irate superior who is looking for a place to vent his anger. Enjoy some hobby you like in the company of good friends tonight.

FORECAST FOR FRIDAY, MAY 6, 1988

### GENERAL TENDENCIES:

Your high level of energy should be used to finish up all your work. Then you can start the weekend on a positive note. Get together with some of your best friends this evening for a night on the town.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) Get an early start on business matters this morning. You can make a considerable amount of money today. Be sure to get plenty of rest tonight.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) Get the information you need before beginning a new project, and avoid being interrupted later. Stick to your schedule today.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) Stop beating around the bush, and be straightforward when presenting your ideas to others. Enjoy the company of your mate tonight.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to July 21) Put aside personal matters for now, and concentrate on improving your financial status. Be sure to drive with the utmost care.

LIBRA (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21) If a co-worker seems a bit confused with a new project, offer to help this person. If you do so, you will have made a good, long-lasting friend.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) You can accomplish a great deal today

by using your creative abilities. Have a good time tonight, but don't spend too much money.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) Get your house fixed up early today, as you may have some unexpected guests this evening. Make some sensible plans for the future.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) It is very important that you handle all of your correspondence today. Don't go off on any strange tangents this evening.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) Take the time to organize your assets and liabilities so they will be easier to handle in the days ahead. Your property may need a repair.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) Your organizational ability is good right now, so don't waste time and use it to your best advantage. Have fun with your friends tonight.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) You would be wise to stop daydreaming and handle an important personal matter. Your mate may need some special attention.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) Visit a few old friends today, as these people can offer you some valuable advice. It is important that you use much care in motion of any kind.

### THE BETTER HALF.

By Harris



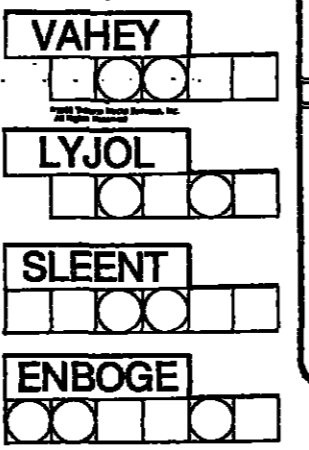
"No wonder I have so much bad luck! My social security number is 013-13-1313!"

### JUMBLE.

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME

by Henri Arnold and Bob Lee

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.



Answer here: A



Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Answers tomorrow

Jumbles: BATHE HIKER SMUDGE POROUS

Answer: When the cowboys finished branding them, the cows were really this—"IMPRESSED"

### GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN AND OMAR SHARIF

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#### ONE AT A TIME WILL DO

Neither vulnerable. West deals.

**NORTH**  
♠ A 10 4  
♥ K 10  
♦ Q 7 6  
♣ A K Q 10 2

**EAST**  
♠ Q 3 2  
♥ Q 4 3 2  
♦ 9 8 2  
♣ 9 8 3

**SOUTH**  
♠ 9 7 6  
♥ J 9 8 7 6 5  
♦ K 10 4  
♣ 7

The bidding:  
West 1♠ North 2♦ South 3♦  
Pass 2NT Pass 4♥  
Pass Pass Pass

Opening lead: Four of ♠  
Don't commit yourself to a line of play until it is absolutely necessary. Sometimes you can afford to take your tricks as they come and see what develops.

With just a single stopper in the enemy suit and a hand that he judged too strong for a one no trump overall, North elected to double first and then invite with two no trump. South felt that his six-card suit and singleton merited trying for the suit game.

West led a low club, and declarer was not sure he liked his contract or

how to proceed. He decided he would simply take what tricks he could and see what transpired. So he took three high clubs, discarding two spades from hand, cashed the ace of spades and ruffed a spade.

Since West was marked with most of the high cards, declarer continued with a low diamond. Rising with the ace would have solved South's problems for him, so West played low and the queen won. Declarer used his entry to ruff another spade, and then he led a trump.

West performed well the ace, and whatever he chose to do would help declarer.

Declarer had seven tricks in the bag, and West was caught in an end play. If he continued with the ace and another diamond, he would set up declarer's king and South would simply concede a trick to the queen of hearts and claim his ten tricks. But leading a black suit proved to be no better. If West led a club, declarer would follow low from dummy, and East would be helpless. If he ruffed high, declarer would have three high trumps. If he did not ruff, declarer would ruff in hand, cross to the king of trumps and lead a club to score his last trump *en passant*. On a spade return, he could adopt this elegant line, or ruff with the king and make two more trump tricks in hand performance.

## WEEKEND CROSSWORD

Edited by Herb Etkens

### STATEMENTS

by Wilson McRae

#### ACROSS

- 1 Stone
- 2 Minor role
- 3 Tiny portion
- 4 Summa
- 5 Murray of films
- 6 Gr. weight
- 7 Palm tree
- 8 Pulitzer author
- 9 Total
- 10 Jefferson's acquisition
- 11 Computer
- 12 Wye, range
- 13 Harems
- 14 Ducky
- 15 Narrow turn
- 16 Make lace
- 17 Anecdotal collection
- 18 Fry quickly

#### DOWN

- 1 Gen. Bradley
- 2 Valley
- 3 Gorge near
- 4 Adjective for some cigars
- 5 Near
- 6 Openings
- 7 Walkway
- 8 Evict
- 9 Estate
- 10 Fabric nathos
- 11 Fiber knots
- 12 ... up to the moment — his
- 13 Sea regions, old style
- 14 Gandhi
- 15 Mild south
- 16 majesty

#### ACROSS

- 39 Practice game
- 40 Wear away
- 41 Unfused
- 42 Summa
- 43 White house
- 44 Musical adapts
- 45 Caviar bear
- 46 City on the
- 47 Jefferson's acquisition
- 48 Tool set
- 49 Wooded garment
- 50 Carpet fiber
- 51 Topper
- 52 Ducky
- 53 TV stoner
- 54 Corrupts
- 55 Ancient Italians
- 56 Q22 for one
- 57 Tantalize
- 58 Fry quickly

#### DOWN

- 59 Singer Reese
- 60 Feared lord
- 61 NY time zone
- 62 Strung
- 63 Of the name
- 64 Betty deacon
- 65 Scum
- 66 Royal staff
- 67 Fabled of old
- 68 Apprehension
- 69 Actor
- 70 Christy
- 71 Trenchman
- 72 Alms
- 73 Warship
- 74 Less inclined
- 75 Naval letters
- 76 Sports org.
- 77 Forest deserts
- 78 Beats in the ring again

#### ACROSS

- 107 Sophie of films
- 108 Ga. neighbor
- 109 Craggy hill
- 110 Haysel barrier
- 111 Haysel barrier
- 112 East
- 113 Musical groups
- 114 Oscar de la
- 115 Stock keepers
- 116 Certain US
- 117 Jack Sprit
- 118 "Jack Sprit" could — fast
- 119 Small stream
- 120 Comp. pt.
- 121 Specular
- 122 Indian presents
- 123 Necklace items
- 124 Soak flux

#### DOWN

- 101 Certain actor
- 102 Shale —
- 103 Ery and Gundry
- 104 Denial
- 105 Women fabrics
- 106 One who uses
- 107 Unseen
- 108 Almudila
- 109 acronyms
- 110 Star in Draculas
- 111 Manuscript
- 112 Clum
- 113 Aviation
- 114 Rubber tree

#### Diagramless

19 x 19, by Martha J. De Wit

#### ACROSS

- 1 Run
- 2 Spheres of activity
- 3 Ignor
- 4 Musical sound
- 5 Stripling
- 6 "What's in a name?"
- 7 King Cole
- 8 Representations
- 9 Row
- 10 Simians
- 11 Most cute
- 12 Quick — wink
- 13 One behind
- 14 Little one
- 15 Thin in sound
- 16 Pronoun
- 17 Take as one's own
- 18 Side dish
- 19 Crock
- 20 Goldsmith
- 21 Transmitt
- 22 Medical plant
- 23 Live some
- 24 Marie
- 25 Badger's relative
- 26 Garb
- 27 Nail

#### DOWN

- 1 Tarn crystal
- 2 Tapestry
- 3 Man to have
- 4 Plus
- 5 Decades' property
- 6 Spotted horse
- 7 Proverbial
- 8 One
- 9 Wagers
- 10 Gymnast's item
- 11 Ram's mate
- 12 Belge
- 13 Mused
- 14 Split
- 15 Dancer Moreno
- 16 Author Ory
- 17 "— for all seasons"
- 18 What
- 19 Was sorry for
- 20 Vietnamese holiday
- 21 Equale
- 22 Leksawm
- 23 Bass
- 24 Comprehend
- 25 Very flat plane
- 26 Put on brightly
- 27 Secondhand meat
- 28 Sign of sorrow
- 29 Caravan cover
- 30 short
- 31 Equale
- 32 Drugged

#### CRYPTOGRAMS

—By Sally L. Murray

#### 1. FOSUM ZMJQSTK HI CYOACC LIFT CHMNG

XIATHJSTCSLM. FSCM TMIOZHM CHAYR HI

CRSSTK XIOM KNTUM HMQQJST.

—By Connie Rosenfeld

#### 2. IM WARM XMEYNFZYW EYNYCD IMENUMB

NUN WYWWF YF PDNA XMWPMRPF

IPDNM CPHUN DAN XM NAA NAYHU ZAB

YF.

#### 3. BAM TU TV LXBLMU VALV VAD YDVVDF VAD

OFENSIV. VAD UVSOTNDF VAD FLNTE

IERRDFITLX BTXX YD?

—By Len Sherry

#### 4. WR WHAHNAME NAMED HURRODT TUOUI

UH ANY OWTYD.

—By Barbara J. Ross

#### SOLUTIONS OF LAST WEEK'S PUZZLE

ACROSS

1. Run

2. Spheres of activity

3. Ignor

4. Musical sound

5. Stripling

6. "What's in a name?"

7. King Cole

8. Representations

9. Row

10. Simians

11. Most cute

12. Quick — wink

13. One behind

14. Little one

15. Thin in sound

16. Pronoun

17. Take as one's own

18. Side dish

19. Crock

20. Goldsmith

21. Transmitt

22. Medical plant

23. Live some

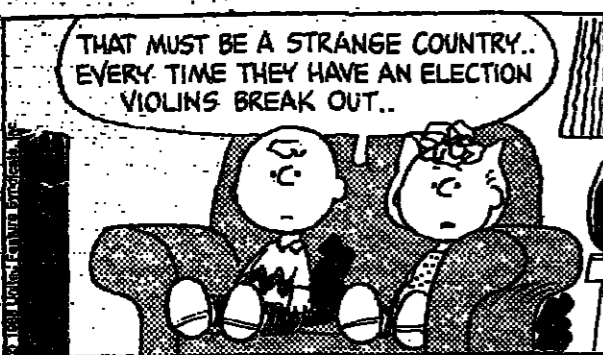
24. Marie

25. Badger's relative

26. Garb

27. Nail

## Peanuts



## Mutt'n' Jeff



## Andy Capp



# Dukakis heads for nomination, race with Bush

WASHINGTON (R) — Michael Dukakis is rolling towards the Democratic presidential nomination and an election fight with Republican George Bush after he scored easy wins in the Ohio and Indiana primaries.

Dukakis beat lone Democratic rival Jesse Jackson in the two contests that mattered most, but the black leader blocked the Massachusetts governor from a clean sweep by winning the smaller primary in Washington D.C.

Dukakis won Ohio and Indiana by a better than two-to-one margin over Jackson, who easily swept the nation's capital, which has a 70 per cent black population.

With about two-thirds of Indiana's vote recorded, Dukakis led Jackson by 68 to 24 per cent. In

Ohio, with about 70 per cent of the vote counted, Dukakis won 64 to 26 per cent. Jackson won Washington by 77 to 21 per cent.

Dukakis has won nine major races since he lost to Jackson in Michigan March 26, the first and only large industrial state won by the Baptist preacher.

Vice-President Bush, who clinched the Republican presidential nomination last week in the Pennsylvania primary, accused Dukakis of a doom and gloom campaign, during a speech celebrating his wins in Ohio, Indiana



Michael Dukakis

and Washington.

He told cheering supporters at a Washington hotel: "My view is, let Mike Dukakis go around talking about pink slips (dismissal notices), despair, pessimism in the United States."

"I'll be the guy out there talking about hope and opportunity and challenge, and the fact that the United States is the fairest and the most decent nation on the face of the earth. Let me apologize for America, and let me lead her to new greatness."

At his own news conference in Boston Tuesday night, Dukakis refused to be drawn into a fight against Bush — even though Dukakis has previously called him a "blank slate" with unknown policies.

"I would hope we can keep it positive — both of us," Dukakis said.

There were signs from the voting Tuesday that a Bush-Dukakis election fight could be a tough contest.

Opinion polls by both the ABC and CBS television networks suggested that Democrats who had defected to vote for Republican President Reagan — who is ineligible to run for a third term — would return to the Democrats with Dukakis as candidate.

The CBS/New York Times poll said that Dukakis led Bush among white Democrats in Ohio by an eight to one margin. ABC said over two-thirds of Reagan Democrats would now vote for Dukakis against Bush in Indiana and Ohio — which is a key election-year state.

## Marcos denied permission to attend mother's funeral

MANILA (AP) — The mother of Ferdinand Marcos died Wednesday, but President Corason Aquino told the nation the deceased president would not be allowed to return for the funeral because he remains a threat to national security.

In Hawaii, Marcos said he was "completely shocked" by the death of his 95-year-old mother, Josefa Edralin-Marcos, and vowed he would seek to return. Marcos supporters in the Philippines denounced Aquino's decision.

Marcos said in a statement read to reporters by an aide that he would "exhaust all possibilities that may be available to us to return to our motherland, to help save her from the threatened communist takeover or a possible civil war."

Dr. Sergio Brilantes, director of Veterans Memorial Medical Centre said Edralin-Marcos suffered cardiac arrest at noon (0400 GMT) and was pronounced dead 20 minutes later.

In a nationally televised address, Aquino expressed condolences to the Marcos family, but said:

"After careful assessment in consultation with the leadership of both chambers of congress and the cabinet committee, I regret that considerations of national welfare, which are above indi-

vidual interests, forbid us from allowing the former president to return."

Aquino said respect for parents was an important value in Filipino society. But she added, "There are other values involving national stability and the common good of our people, whose primacy I am duty-bound to uphold."

"I really did not have too many options," Aquino told reporters following the broadcast.

Hundreds of Marcos supporters, many of them weeping, gathered outside the hospital where Edralin-Marcos died. Many of them shouted anti-Aquino slogans and called for revolution.

Edralin-Marcos died as Aquino met with cabinet members to consider Edralin-Marcos' request, made in a letter delivered to the presidential palace Tuesday.

The meeting broke up after Edralin-Marcos died. National Security Adviser Emmanuel Soriano, who attended the meeting, said Aquino consulted congressional leaders before deciding to forbid Marcos' return.

"It was a very difficult but very serious decision," Soriano said. "We might summarise it in terms of what is best for the common good at this time, what is best for national stability at this time."

## Kanak rebellion hits New Caledonia business

NOUMEA, New Caledonia (R) — Business was virtually at a standstill in New Caledonia Wednesday amid tension over a 13-day-old hostage drama and other separatist unrest.

"Small trading has stopped — it's a reflex of fear," said Raymond Bouvard, president of the territory's small business association.

"There are hardly any customers out on the street, in the stores, in the restaurants," he said.

Public attention was focused on events in a remote cave on an island off the north-east coast where about 11 Kanaks (Melanesians) were holding captive 23 French law officers. French Interior Minister Charles Pasqua ruled out negotiations with the kidnappers.

Many Kanaks, who make up 43 per cent of the territory's 145,000 population, say white settlers have driven them off the best land and deprived them of political rights.

Some settlers warned they would "fight fire with fire" if separatist unrest worsened. A leading Kanak separatist called Wednesday for a dialogue between the two communities.

"All of us here must learn to live together. We must talk," Leopold Jorede of the Kanak Socialist National Liberation Front (FLNKS) told Reuters.

"If we've taken up our guns against the French troops, it's to earn the right to live, not end up in a cemetery," he said.

In Noumea, which could easily



Hooded Kanak militants armed with guns and axes man a barricade they erected near Canala in New Caledonia as part of their rebellion

be mistaken for a port in southern France because of its pastel-colored houses and neat palm-fringed boulevards, riot police patrol in vans at night while bar owners advertising 24-hour business close before midnight.

"Everything has stopped," said Philippe Melikian, co-owner of a local real estate firm.

He said residents were anxiously awaiting the results of the second round of French presidential elections May 8 to see

whether the next Paris government would help resolve growing unrest on the territory.

President Francois Mitterrand, standing against conservative Prime Minister Jacques Chirac, favours independence in association with France for New Caledonia and has been criticised for his support of the Kanak cause.

The FLNKS has been pressing Paris to appoint a mediator to start talks on independence. Businessmen said they feared

another economic slump like one that hit the territory after 32 people died in violence between separatists and pro-French loyalists in 1984 and early 1985.

"The situation is worse this time. Last time there was space for dialogue, but now that possibility seems to have been exhausted," Bouvard said.

The French territory earns most of its revenue from nickel exports and tourism but also depends largely on France for aid.

## Scientists dismayed at Reagan astrology report

WASHINGTON (AP) — Scientists expressed dismay at reports that some White House decisions might have been based on astrology, with one saying, "that's not the type of guidance we need from the federal government."

Andrew Fraknoi, an astronomy professor at San Francisco State University and executive officer of the Astronomical Society of the Pacific, said that the claims of astrology have been subjected to dozens of scientific tests and have been found totally without foundation.

In one test, he said, two scientists examined more than 3,000

predictions by astrologers and found that they were correct less than 10 per cent of the time.

"If the predictions are wrong 90 per cent of the time, that's not the type of guidance we need from the federal government," Fraknoi said Tuesday in a telephone interview from his San Francisco office.

Meanwhile, an organisation of scientists called the Committee for the Scientific Investigation of the Claims of the Paranormal said in a statement:

"We are dismayed by reports that the White House has consulted astrologists. We are concerned by the apparent return to medieval superstition. Dozens of tests in recent years by scientists can find little, if any, evidence for astrological claims. Horoscopes have been shown under the most rigorous scientific analysis to fail completely in predicting future events."

The issue was raised by reports that former White House Chief of Staff Donald T. Regan wrote in an upcoming book that Nancy Reagan consulted astrologers to determine the timing of presidential speeches and announcements.

President Ronald Reagan said Tuesday that he has never based any policy or decision on astrological forecasts, but the White House acknowledged that Mrs. Reagan has consulted an astrologer to help schedule the president's activities.

Astrologer Joyce Jilson said Tuesday she was called to the White House after Reagan was

shot in an assassination attempt in March, 1981.

The Los Angeles astrologer also implied she was a factor in the selection of George Bush for second place on the Reagan presidential ticket in 1980.

She said she chose Bush as the best man to be Reagan's vice president shortly before Reagan won the nomination that year.

Jilson, who writes a newspaper column on astrology, told Reuters that from studying the stars she could tell when would be a

good time for such conferences.

The Philadelphia Inquirer said Mrs. Reagan, after consulting an astrologer, insisted that the signing of the U.S.-Soviet treaty eliminating intermediate-range nuclear missiles be held at 1:30 p.m. on Dec. 8.

"I don't know in any detailed sense" if that is true, White House spokesman Martin Fitzwater said. His regular news briefing Tuesday was dominated by questions on the first family and astrology.

## Doctors separate Siamese twins at Soweto hospital

JOHANNESBURG (AP) — Doctors Wednesday performed follow-up surgery on one of the 17-month-old Siamese twins who were separated in a lengthy operation a day earlier, officials at Soweto's Baragwanath Hospital said.

Mpho and Mphonyana Mathibela, who had been joined at the head, were separated in a seven-and-a-half-hour operation Tuesday by a 40-person medical team at Baragwanath, the main hospital in the township outside Johannesburg.

Mphonyana, the smaller and weaker of the two, began bleeding from the incision in her head early Wednesday and required additional surgery, the hospital said. Following the operation, she was returned to the intensive care unit.

Both girls were in critical but stable condition, the hospital said without elaboration. "I always knew they would be all right," said Sophie Mathibela, mother of the girls. "I feel so happy."

Doctors at Johns Hopkins Hospital in the United States, who last year separated West German Siamese twins joined at the head, advised the Baragwanath doctors before the operation and called to offer congratulations following the surgery.

The girls shared a major blood vessel in their heads, which doctors partially clamped in the earlier operations in hopes that lesser blood vessels would take over the functions of the shared vein.

Mrs. Mathibela, an unmarried, 33-year-old domestic worker who earns about 120 rand (\$60) a month, gave birth to the twins Dec. 7, 1986.

She said that initially she refused to see the girls for three days.

"Once persuaded to see them, I immediately accepted and loved my little girls from God," Mrs. Mathibela said.

The girls had a combined weight of 15 kilograms before the operation. Mpho appears to be developing normally and recently began to speak, while Mphonyana is slightly smaller and does not appear to be as advanced, hospital officials said.

Mathibela was asked to make a 10-rand (\$5) contribution to the costs of the operations, estimated at \$1.5 million rand (\$700,000). The costs are being covered by the hospital and the University of the Witwatersrand Medical School.

The Sowetan, a daily which covers the black township, has set up a trust fund for the twins that has raised 55,000 rand (\$26,000).

## Tiny device could help heart patients survive

HOUSTON (AP) — A device about the size of a pencil eraser saved a heart transplant recipient's life and could help many of the 150,000 Americans who suffer heart attacks each year, surgeons at the Texas Heart Institute said Tuesday.

"I must say it's the most remarkable thing I've seen or experienced," said Dr. O.H. Frazier, director of the institute's cullen cardiovascular surgical research laboratories. "A device this small to take over the function of the human heart is really incredible."

In its first human application, the temporary device — known as the nitroballo pump — was inserted into the heart of a 62-year-old Colorado man April 26. The patient, whose name was not disclosed, underwent a heart transplant a month ago but was suffering from rejection and faced certain death, Frazier said.

"He's in the game," Frazier said. "He was out of the game Monday a week ago, totally out, and the only reason he's in it is because of the device. I say that with absolute certainty."

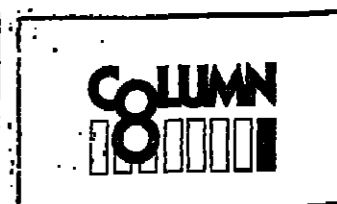
The pump, smaller than a pen-

ny and cylindrical like a pencil, is inserted through the femoral artery in the leg and is passed with a tube until it gets to the left ventricle, the heart's main pumping chamber. The tube stays in and is hooked to the outside power source.

There, spinning at 25,000 revolutions per minute, it can provide 100 per cent of the blood flow to the body and enable the heart muscle to rest and heal. "The main thing is all other devices require the chest to be open and major surgery," Frazier said. "This is placed in a simple incision."

Unlike an intra-aortic balloon pump now used to treat heart patients, the hemopump does not require a beating heart to function effectively, doctors said.

The device has been in testing for two years and the U.S. Food and Drug Administration is allowing testing at Texas Heart Institute for four patients. A second patient given the pump last week died, although Frazier said that patient suffered from complications not related to the pump.



## Nun caught stealing panties pleads poverty

SAO PAULO (R) — A Brazilian nun was arrested in Sao Paulo after stealing two embroidered lace panties and some silverware she intended to send to her poor sister, police said Tuesday. Catharina Ribeiro dos Santos, 49, made a purchase for her Franciscan colleagues at a local department store and paid. But she then slipped two pairs of panties, three forks and three knives into her shopping bag, police said. At the police station she confessed her crime but pleaded poverty. In tears, she told reporters she was "more humiliated than Christ on the cross."

## Two charged in lottery forgery

HARRISBURG (AP) — Authorities accused a computer operator from a company that helps run the state lottery with forging a winning \$15.2-million ticket and another man with trading it in for the jackpot. Mark S. Herbst, 33 of Harrisburg, was arraigned Tuesday, less than a week after he traded in the ticket for the first \$469,989 instalment of the prize from a super 7 drawing last July 15. He was jailed in lieu of \$50,000 bail. Jailed in lieu of bail Monday night was computer operator Henry Arthur Rich, also 33 of Harrisburg, who tried to flee, arresting officers said. Rich is said to have used a computer at his firm, control data corp., to identify unclaimed jackpots and to print a copy of the unclaimed winning ticket, which he gave to Herbst. He contended Rich obtained information about the winning ticket from the lottery's main computer, which he had access to as a troubleshooter. Herbst claimed he had used the ticket as a bookmark until he saw a newspaper story about the unclaimed prize. James Scroggins, the lottery's executive director, said doubts arose because the bogus ticket was printed on a blank from a Scantron lottery-ticket outlet, while a computer check showed the actual winner was sold in Bucks county.

## Authorities stand by 'forged' Ludovisi throne

ROME (R) — Custodians of Rome's art treasures have sprung to the defence of the city's Ludovisi throne, a supposed classical Greek masterpiece suddenly under intense scrutiny after a claim that it is a modern fake. A statement by Rome's Department of Archaeology Tuesday said until a case was made against the authenticity of the throne, it would stay on display at the national Roman museum. A leading art critic, Professor Federico Zeri, claimed last week that documents found in Sweden established the throne, said to date from 500 B.C. as a 19th century forgery. The throne depicts in relief a young woman, probably Aphrodite the goddess of love, being helped from water by two maidservants.

## Unusual sentence for 7 murders

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — A man convicted of murdering seven women and letting their bodies rot faces life in prison rather than death under an unusual sentence handed down Tuesday. Common pleas Judge Robert A. Latrone issued six death sentences against Harrison "Marty" Graham but ordered him first to serve up to 14 years in prison on seven counts of abuse of a corpse and life in prison for the remaining murder. Latrone, who ordered the sentences to run consecutively, explained that he chose life in prison over the death penalty on the first murder count because of a mitigating circumstance — the lack of a previous record. Graham could not apply for parole during the life sentence, however, without putting the death sentence into effect, defence attorney Joel Moldovsky said. Police found the bodies of seven women in August 1987, after Graham was evicted from his apartment because of a putrid stench.

## Peking bank branch runs out of cash

PEKING (R) — A Peking man who went to get cash from his bank account was told he would have to wait until others made a deposit because the bank was out of money. The Economic Daily Wednesday printed a letter from the angry customer describing his long wait at the bank. He said another customer who needed money to pay for one of his family to go to hospital also had to go without cash.

## WORLD NEWS IN BRIEF

### Soviets conduct nuclear test

MOSCOW (AP) — The Soviet Union staged a nuclear test Wednesday morning on the steppes of Soviet Central Asia to upgrade its military technology, the TASS news agency said. It said the 20-to-150-kiloton underground blast at the Semipalatinsk test range in Kazakhstan occurred at 5 a.m. Moscow time (0100 GMT), but gave no other details. It was the fifth Soviet nuclear test this year. TASS did not give the exact power of the blast. Twenty kilotons, equivalent to the power of 20,000 tons of TNT, was the force of the U.S. atom bomb dropped on Hiroshima, Japan, in 1945. The Soviets have proposed halting all nuclear tests, but U.S. officials have objected on the basis that they disagree with Soviet ideas on how to enforce the ban. A group of Soviet scientists was in the United States last week for an experiment on verification of U.S.-Soviet compliance with a possible test ban. In January, American scientists visited the Semipalatinsk range to gather similar information.

### U.S. to pursue biological warfare research

WASHINGTON (AP) — The army wants to go ahead and build a new biological warfare test laboratory in Utah despite strong public opposition, administration officials said Tuesday. The army has temporarily shelved its proposal to construct the facility at Dugway Proving Grounds but plans to seek the money again next year, the officials testified to a trio of house subcommittees. They said the United States has unilaterally renounced any use of biological weapons but still needs to conduct research in the field because of germ weapons that might be developed by other nations.

### Indictments announced in Rutgers death

NEW BRUNSWICK, New Jersey (AP) — Fifteen Rutgers University students have been indicted in the drinking-related death of a fraternity pledge, authorities said Tuesday. The students, including seven officers of the now-closed Lambda Chi Alpha fraternity, will be charged with aggravated hazing, which carries a penalty of up to 18 months in prison and a \$7,500 fine upon conviction. Middlesex County prosecutor Alan Rockoff said that as first offenders, the students probably will not face prison. A grand jury in Middlesex County returned the indictment Friday, but it was not announced until Tuesday because prosecutors wanted to tell the students and their families before the public. Tuesday also marked the death of a Rutgers football player in a car accident in which the driver had twice the legal amount of blood alcohol in his system, Rockoff said.

### Japanese heads World Health Organisation

GENEVA (R) — The World Health Organisation (WHO) at its general assembly Wednesday endorsed the appointment of Dr. Hiroshi Nakajima of Japan as its new director-general. The 59-year-old specialist in neuropsychiatry and pharmacology succeeds Dr. Halfdan Mahler, of Denmark, who has held the post since 1973. He becomes the first Japanese to head a U.N. agency. Nakajima, who has headed the WHO's regional office for the Western Pacific since 1979, was nominated for the top post by the 31-member executive board last January and his election by the assembly was a formality. The Geneva-based WHO was founded in 1948 with the aim of raising health levels around the world, particularly in developing countries. It now has 166 member nations.

## Fuel problem said to have caused Boeing failure

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Boeing 747 that landed outside Tokyo with only one engine operating had run out of fuel for the other three, aviation sources in and out of the U.S. government said Tuesday.

The sources, who asked not to be identified, said that the tanks supplying fuel to the three dead engines were found to be dry when the plane landed.

The fourth tank had about 9,070 kilograms of fuel remaining and was in no imminent danger of also going dry. It was not known whether the fuel problem had been caused by a pilot error or by a mechanical problem with the plane's fuel-switching equipment. On a Boeing 747, fuel is routinely transferred from tank to tank during a long flight to balance the aircraft.

One source said it is possible that a fuel line or filter could have kept the fuel from being shifted properly or the flight crew by mistake might have shifted too much into the fourth tank and not been able to shift it back in time.

The Boeing Jumbo jet has a variety of gauges to tell the flight crew how much fuel has been burned and how much is left. The flight engineer in the three-per-

son cockpit normally performs his own calculations as to fuel burn and availability as well. "Either one of two things happened. Either the crew messed up or the transfer pumps or valves or lines were not working properly," said the source.

The plane, United Airlines Flight 97 from Los Angeles to Tokyo with 239 passengers and 19 crew members aboard, first lost the use of one engine at 11,888 metres over the Pacific Ocean about 75 minutes from the airport. A second engine failed about 30 minutes later.

Pilot Jack Harper radioed the control tower at 2:49 p.m. that he had shut down two of the four engines due to malfunctions and asked permission to land. A third engine failed shortly before landing. The plane touched down safely at the airport in Narita, 65 kilometres northeast of Tokyo.

The Washington Post reported the fuel starvation problem in Tuesday's editions.

A Tokyo newspaper, Yomiuri Shimbun, said that during the flight, the gauge that indicates how much fuel is feeding into the engines showed there was almost no fuel going into engines one and four and that the No. 3 engine was malfunctioning.

government.

Assistant Secretary of State Elliott Abrams met Tuesday with Panama's Ambassador Juan B. Sosa, a leader of the anti-Noriega forces in exile. There was no report on the meeting.

Cochez and Aurelio Barria, a leader of another group opposed to Noriega, spoke to reporters at the National Democratic Institute for International Affairs, which is affiliated with the Democratic Party.

The administration, in a policy shift, said last week it is no longer insisting that Noriega leave Panama and would settle for his resignation as defence chief as a prelude to a transition to democratic rule.

Word of the policy shift has angered the Panamanian opposition, which maintains that the country's political future is for Panamanians to decide, not the United States.

"The U.S. has no right to decide if a Panamanian can stay or not in the country," Barria said.

guerrillas kidnapped 5 foreigners

BOGOTA (AP) — Leftist guerrillas claimed that they kidnapped five foreigners, including a French diplomat, two Swiss officials and two West German honorary consuls.

Meanwhile, honorary consuls of France and Panama escaped kidnapping attempts Tuesday.

In Bern, the Swiss Foreign Ministry Wednesday confirmed the abduction of two Swiss and two West Germans. Foreign Ministry spokesman Michael Fache said security has been stepped up.

Pache declined to provide details, but he said the kidnappers have not made any demands. He identified the men as Richard Auderegg, 47, general secretary of the Colombian-Swiss Chamber of Commerce in Bogota, and Wilfredo Lehner, 46, acting secretary of the humanitarian agency Paz en la Tierra.

Police said the five men were kidnapped by the National Liberation Army and the People's Liberation Army, which form part of the leftist national guerrilla coordinating organisation.

Callers identifying themselves as being members of another National Liberation Army cell telephoned Bogota radio stations, saying they were holding Jean Christopher Rampal, a French embassy press official who disappeared last weekend.

In Bucaramanga, police said that city's 59-year-old West German consul, Sigfried Makerkurt, was kidnapped Tuesday.